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THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

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IS THE GOVERNMENT ON OUR SIDE TO HELP US?

An Eskimo reindeer owner asks this. He is only one of many who are thinking as much, but most Eskimos are so discouraged, that they have given up all hope of anything being done. The record of their eight years of protest has been so useless that they have lost heart. One man who worked hard for years, has quit and says "This reindeer business is bum business." That is all that he says.

Wales, Alaska,
October 12, 1937

C. L. Andrews,
3627 Ashworth Avenue,
Seattle, Wash.

My dear friend:

Sorry to have not written for so long. I have often thought of you and wish to talk to you.

I want to thank you for what you have been trying to do for us poor ignorant Eskimos. It will be a long time before the Eskimos will learn to express themselves.

Tho we Eskimos have heard much talk about the Lomens and the reindeer troubles, we are completely left out by the Government. I mean what we would have to say is not even considered worth while. We heard that the Government will try to buy all the Reindeer owned by the white people and have plans to help the natives.

It seems to me as if this Government is helping the whites by giving them much money by purchasing their deer.

Wouldn't it be better if the Gov't buy surplus deer from the Eskimos than giving the money to the whites?

Last year Wales herd made a shipment of deer meat on the "North Star" charged for the freight.

The returns for that shipment did not cover the butchering expenses.

That is why I ask. Is the Gov't on our side to help us?

Yours

(Signed)

WHY WAS THIS LETTER WRITTEN BY THIS ESKIMO?

This letter represents the feelings of thousands of natives in the reindeer country, but who hesitate to write their feelings.

In 1927 a complaint came from the owners in the "Cape Reindeer Company" of Wales, that their reindeer had been driven off their range. A letter was written to the corporation supposed to have driven the deer, but no answer was made. This was in May. In the latter part of the year the Wales herd rounded up their reindeer. It found on its range about 1500 deer belonging to said corporation, and about 1000 deer from native herds that came from the corporation range.

It was public information, that the corporation had been taking deer from native ranges, first at Golovin, next Teller, then the Olson deer, the Buckland native deer, the Igloo reindeer.

The Wales herd had been held and managed for over 32 years, from 1894 to 1927, without a mixing of other deer into its herd. Here in one year came about 2500 from the range of this corporation complained of. It was astonishing, and unprecedented.

COMPLAINT TO WASHINGTON

As soon as the result of this count was made known, a corporation officer went to the Commissioner of Education of the U. S. in Washington, D. C., and complained that the natives had taken their deer.

The Commissioner, without proper investigation, on the statement of the said officer, issued a letter, or order, censuring the Wales natives for their complaint, and ordering the deer of the corporation mark in their herd to be delivered to said corporation.

The Wales natives demurred among themselves, believing that most, or many of the so marked reindeer came from their herd, and had been driven away from Wales and marked and then driven back again. The fawns had been marked by percentage marking which mixes the animals inextricably, so far as fawns and mothers are concerned. Finally, the Wales natives, being urged by Government officers agreed to comply with the order, and named the time they would do it.

At the agreed time, the Manager of the Corporation appeared at Wales, and persuaded and intrigued the Wales people, not to cut out the corporation deer, but to drive to Teller and allow butchered, about four thousand reindeer for which the corporation would pay \$3.00 per head for 20 per cent and the remainder to be credited on the number of above mentioned deer in Wales.

This prevented the Wales herd being cleared of the intruding deer. It left an indefinite number in Corporation mark on the range to eat Wales moss and forage. It disregarded the Commissioner's order. It was procured done by a corporation officer.

There were 3780 deer butchered under this arrangement. For 756 of them was paid \$3.00 each, leaving 3034 deer delivered on about 2500, deer found at Wales in 1927. This was done in December 1929, and January 1930.

This action left an unknown number of corporation reindeer mixed in the Wales herd, consuming the forage, a source of trouble and contention, and it annulled the order of the Commissioner and the agreement of the natives. It left the Wales herd open to further claims. The whole operation was in opposition to the law on estrays for Alaska.

In the report of the Lomen Corporation for 1929 appears the note at the end; that a determined effort would be made to get their deer from Wales.

The Wales natives were sullen, felt injured, discredited, they had "Shame put on them", which is an insult under their code of honor, for they have a feeling of honor naturally, perhaps keener than the white man.

In the City of Washington in March 1931 a Committee was appointed to consider a report of Mr. E. W. Sawyer relating to the

reindeer matters. The report was before the Committee but was not made known to the public. There was also a report of an examiner of the Land Office, and it was marked "Confidential" and kept from the natives as well as the public. Before this committee was not one field man of the Service nor one Eskimo, to state his case. Two thirds of the Committee members were antagonistic to the native and in favor of the Corporation. The President of the Corporation was before the Committee to present the corporation side. He alleged;

"I wish you could know some of our Eskimo people. They are so aggressive that we have lost entirely a herd of 12,000 deer." (Hearings Kendrick Com. p. 71, in 1931) Our Laplander Stenfield came to Alaska for the Government in 1898. He has run wild there during the past year trying to follow his herd, and he cannot do it." (Id. p. 71).

He also stated, "Wales herd . . . found more than 3,800 of our deer in that herd marked to us, with our ear marks on them. They were all of the Lomen deer, but there were Eskimo owners on the Teller range with us and it totaled over 3,800. We have never gotten those deer back." (Id. p. 470).

His corporation had grossly wronged the natives, and in this he was slandering them. Where were the 3034 deer delivered in 1929-30, to be credited against the corporation deer left eating the Wales range? He well understood the value of range, and the scarcity of the winter moss. He said at that same committee meeting.

"A reindeer will help eat up our range, and our range is too small now to make it a real paying proposition." (Id. p.71).

This begins to get at the real animus of the whole affair, it would appear. The corporation was using the Wales range as a reservoir in which to keep its reindeer, and went, under sundry pretexts and drove deer of all marks and ownership down as wanted.

His Lap herder Stenfield, it appears from native statements, went on the Wales range in March 1929, and drove a herd to Teller corrals. The corporation was forced to acknowledge it in July 1931, at a meeting in the town of Nome, two years and four months after it was done.

The Wales natives disliked discussing this matter, they having been so completely discredited in 1927-8 on the first complaint. It was found out by listening to them talking together. The President of the Cape Reindeer Company, Wales, was asked to have a statement made of the matter.

May 18th 1930, Tungwenuk wrote,

"For several days I have been pondering in my mind whether it would be best to write to you on the subject of the natives you plead for."

Finally, on April 30, 1931, being exasperated by the statements made to the Kend-

rick Committee, in Washington, he did make a statement of the raid on his herd about March 15th, 1929, and filed the statements in writing of two of the Wales herders, Francis Amedlotook, and Harold Ahmasuk. In this the matter was stated in detail as to dates and events. The herders give March 1st to about the 15th, 1929. They did not know the exact number of deer taken by the Lomen Corporation, but said;

"They mill-gate most of the unmark females and we did not have any records of any kind, we cut out ours and Shishmaref herds and leaved Lomens and Teller and also Igloo No. 1 and No. 2. We took about half and leaves half of them." The natives protested the taking their herd, and state that the corporation butchered from it.

In July 1931 the Corporation officers were compelled to confess, two years and four months after the act was committed, that there was a drive made, "picked up close to the Wales boundary or within the Wales range, 1985 reindeer," "on March 15th 1929."

The statement is erroneous and misleading, as well as deficient. It does not report any butchering, it does not report Teller native deer, or Igloo deer, of which there were a number, according to Wales herders statements, and a herd of 1985 deer could not have been taken from either of those ranges and not have some deer of each of those marks. They received 996 deer by this.

This is the way they "Made determined effort" to get their deer from Wales range, as they put out in their report.

Not satisfied with this, in July 1930, the Corporation herders went on the Wales range and attempted to drive away a herd that Wales herders had rounded up to take to their corral to count. They were overtaken, according to the native account, by the Wales herders and the herd taken from them.

Then the Lomen herders went to Wales where the Wales herd was being counted and asked for, and finally after protests of the Wales natives, got about 3000 head, according to native testimony.

"We were conference for they wanted to have a herd about 6000, at first, until 3,000. We had been meeting three or four time, not giving them.

As an incident we favor by Government representatives as I think we ought to let them have it so we did, we made agreement to let them have 3,000 deer. It was on August and counting on 6, 7th" Statement by Louis Tungwenuk.

The corporation drove this herd about sixty miles, to their Teller corral, and took from the herd every unmarked fawn and maverick. This was against the rule of the range that the mavericks belong to the herd on the range where found. It lost about half the reindeer on the way, but worked 1878 deer, and of these took 1175 reindeer.

After all this distinctly invidious handling in rustling and mavericking by herds from the Wales natives, and sharp practice in taking advantage of them in various ways, the President of the Corporation, as above stated, in Washington, D. C., in 1931, published to the world in the hearings of the Kendrick Committee, that;

"They took 3800 of our deer. I say "took them." "We have never gotten those deer back." (Kendrick Reindeer Committee, Washington, D. C., 1931, p. 470.)

All this was presented to the Reindeer Council, in 1931, by a full statement, quoting the native evidence, as written. It was presented to Trowbridge and Gillman, Special Agents of the Interior Department. No mention was made of it in the minutes of the Council. Inquiry made through the Office of the Secretary of the Interior elicited the information that;

"We discussed this matter at some length with Mr. Hawkesworth, Mr. Moeze, Mr. Schmidt, Louis Tungwenuk, and the native representative from Teller. Louis and Robert, the two native members stated that they believed all difficulties would be settled if Ole Stenfield, Lomen chief herder at Teller would be removed and this was agreed to by the members of the Council." (Letter of Mr. Parks, Governor of Alaska, President of the Council, March 9, 1932.)

The minutes of the Council make no mention of the matter.

On the 1554 Lomen deer 831 Igloo native deer, and 191 Teller native deer that were found in Wales herd in 1927, at the November count at Wales, the Wales natives had returned to the Lomen corporation, as above shown;

3034 deer in 1929-30
996 deer March 15th, 1929
1175 deer August 6th & 7th, 1930

5205 deer, total.

In addition they had pastured Lomen deer for four years. At a meeting at which the native Tungwenuk, was at a disadvantage, an agreement was arrived at, by which the Corporation acknowledged that they owed on March 1, 1931, 928 reindeer to the Wales "Cape Reindeer Company." They had 798 Corporation deer still on the Wales range, eating Wales forage. These should at once have been turned over to the Wales company. It was not done. Not one deer appears to have been paid. The balance of 130 should have been settled for in cash. They were not. But the unjust agreement was imposed on the Wales people that the Lomen deer stay on Wales range, and should receive mavericks and fawns at same percentage as the Cape Reindeer Company, and that the increase should be applied on the debt owed in March 1931.

Mr. Lomen said "we have never gotten

those deer back." And the Interior Department let this continue.

July 15th and 16th, 1929 Wales counted their herd, and found 12,411 reindeer, of which 10,070 were in Cape Co., mark, and 1640 in Lomen Corporation mark. The rest were strays. Only 64 strays beyond those that came through the Lomen herd.

In 1936, the Cape Company could find only about 1000 deer on their range, and the Lomens had them charged with 1192 deer owing them, on "Over and Short" account, another legacy from the Lomen management, and allowed by the Government.

Wales has not forgotten the 1700 deer they lost through "co-operative Butchering" in 1931 from which they received nothing.

These are some of the reasons why the writer of the letter says:

"WE ARE COMPLETELY LEFT OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT. I MEAN WHAT WE SAY IS NOT EVEN CONSIDERED WORTHWHILE."

"THIS IS WHY I ASK. IS THE GOVERNMENT ON OUR SIDE TO HELP US?"

The foregoing has only begun to state the case.

ORDER TO STOP PROCEEDINGS FOR NATIVE PEOPLE

In 1916 the Norwegian Mission at Teller sold to Lomen and Company, the herd of reindeer that the Government had put with the mission to distribute among its converts. It had accumulated a herd that had not been distributed, and sold them to this corporation.

A suit was asked by the Interior Department in the interest of the natives. It was delayed in various ways for about five years. It was then thrown out of court on a demurrer, and without a trial of the rights of the natives or of the Rules and Regulations of the Government being considered. An appeal was being prepared.

Immediately following this dismissal of the suit in favor of the natives, the president of the above mentioned corporation was appointed as judge of the Division.

Immediately following the appointment of this judge an order or letter was filed with the United States Attorney at Nome, ordering that he should "drop this appeal."

Is this according to the usual procedure in cases involving the rights of citizens?

Is this not discouraging to a native people who are just learning the ways of the White Man? Is it strange that the native asks, "IS THE GOVERNMENT ON OUR SIDE."

CORPORATIONS VACATING NATIVE RANGE

In 1931 the Kendrick Reindeer Committee recommended that;

"The Lomen Reindeer be transferred or withdrawn from the Teller District."

April 4th 1932, the Secretary of the Interior issued a release saying;

"Ranges around Teller and Buckland in the Seward Peninsula, are to be evacuated by white owners and left entirely to the natives."

The law on leases passed in 1927, says that the native shall have the preference in the leasing of reindeer grazing lands.

The carrying out of the above would have been in the interest of the Wales people and would have removed from their range the corporation reindeer grazing there, and would have taken a thorn from their side.

HAS THIS BEEN DONE?

On the contrary, the Survey of the Alaska Reindeer Service, 1931-1933, at page 10, said that;

"THE TELLER UNIT BE CONTINUED AS MIXED HERDS."

Is this manner of action in favor of the native? Does it not justify the complaint of the Wales native?

LAWS FOR LAPS AND FOR REINDEER IN SWEDEN

Sweden appears to have the best laws of any of the reindeer grazing countries. It looks after the welfare of its people who engage in the business and protects them. It is regretted that the United States has not seen fit to take notice of the Swedish Laws. Nearly five years ago, the Swedish law was procured and a copy given to a special agent of the Interior Department, and it was translated for the use of the Interior Department. There was also a map of the reindeer lands in Sweden presented to said Special agent. This map showed each allotment for a herd.

The Swedish laws provide, briefly, as follows on certain very important points,

Sec. 1. Par. 1;

"The right to care for reindeer in the law is as follows: It is for any one of Lappish birth

Such permits may be given only where there are reasons therefor."

Note by the Editor:

("The allotments are in long strips so that the reindeer may be taken to the lowlands in winter, and in summer may go to the high lands, called "high fells", and some of it is timbered, the Laps who use this being called "Mountain Laps".)

Sec. 3, Par. 1.

"For reindeer raising business the Laps are divided into Lapp villages. The tracts where the deer feed are divided with boundary lines to separate each village so as to have a definite tract for their deer . . ."

"Those who belong to the Lapp village are as follows:

"The Lapp who is in the reindeer business including the caring for and raising of reindeer."

"If a Lapp wishes to move to another

village he must have a Government permit from the village into which he wishes to move . . ."

He must have a statement bearing the number of reindeer he has, and also a sample or drawing of the marking brand he uses.

"The Government gets a vote from the Lapps in the village into which he wishes to move. . ."

"The Lapp cannot feed his deer within another Lapp village boundary line. If this happens the Government fines him as stated in item 9, section 2."

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"For every Lapp village there shall be a village law. This law is written by the Government after the hearing of the Lapps. This Law shall contain the following rules;

A The distribution of the feeding ground in the Lapp villages.

B The number of deer that may be fed in a designated pasture.

C. The watching of the herds and the number of watchmen. The hiring of the watchmen. Arranging and assembling of herds for moving.

D. The rounding of herds for branding. The separation of strange deer.

E. How to proceed with the deer branding, butchering of unbranded deer, or deer whose brands have been forged or deer with brands not known or the sale of such deer.

F. The compensation of the Lapp for the branding, etc. . . . or the compensation of the peace officer, etc. . . .

G. To administrate to use and to account for the means mutually belonging to the village.

H. How to decree items appertaining mutually to the Lapp Village.

"In the village there must be an absolute keeping of the above laws. If the above laws are not kept there is a fine of from 5 to 500 kronors."

"In the Lapp villages when it is convenient for all those concerned, a meeting must be held with the Lapp officers and country officials, once a year. The Government specifies the time of such meetings."

"In the Lapp villages there must be a peace officer, appointed by the Lapps who are in the reindeer business. These appointments are made as stated in Sec. 12.

"The Lapp has the right to have his deer in the care of another Lapp providing they are of the same village."

There are farther provisions made, but are too lengthy to be put in this.

The Bill that was presented by Mr. Diamond contained many of the features of this law. This law operates well in Sweden. There does not appear to have been any reasonable need of the amendments that an-

nulled nearly all the good features of the Bill. The amendment taking the right in every way of self control over the reindeer owned by these Eskimos is unprecedented. The Eskimo is just as capable of managing his deer as are the Lapps. It is his right. His need is to be shown the necessity to do it. He has been a hunter, for generations, but it has been demonstrated that he can be trained to keep his reindeer domesticated, fihe is not deceived by false ideas, and robbed of his profits.

The Eskimo had been taught this for some twenty years when the demoralizing policy was introduced of letting the reindeer go like caribou, and the unsuspecting native "fell for it". Now he is demoralized, and with the exception of a few older men, the whole organization has to be retrained, like an army that has turned into a mob and has lost its discipline.

And the policy of delay, of doing nothing but promise, has destroyed the confidence of nearly every native and has taken the spirit out of him.

In 1915, Walter Shields begged the Government to designate bounds within which the native might herd his deer, and be protected in so doing. The right of mankind and every reason for doing it was included in that. It was the right to protect his own.

In 1927 the long delayed law was passed, and it has been nearly ignored. Two years after its passage the examinations were made. Then action stopped. The herds are running wild today, and uncared for and unprotected, with wolves devouring them.

A little care in allotting each man his lands and requiring him under penalty to keep his deer on those lands would have saved all this miserable demoralization. And so it goes on, year after year, and the natives sinking more helplessly into despondency every year.

GRAZING LAND LEASES REINDEER RANGE

The General Land Office states that there have been six leases issued for grazing lands under the act of March 4, 1927 (44 Stat. 1452) in Alaska.

Nome No. 0849 to Shungnak, Reindeer and Trading Co., 5 years.

Nome 0853 to Cape Reindeer Co. for 20 years.

Nome 0854 to the Niglinuktuk Reindeer Co. 20 years.

Nome 0868 Noorvik Reindeer Co., for 5 years.

Nome 0869 Kivalina-Noatak Reindeer Co., for 20 years.

Nome 0879 William Allokeok and Lloyd Koonuk, 20 years.

Why have not other herds numbering some 30 or 40 received their leases. Then why not enforce each herd to stay on its own?

BUYING REINDEER "UNSIGHT AND UNSEEN"

Is the Government going to take those reindeer belonging to white owners, running wild and unmarked on the range, "unsight and unseen", like small boys used to trade knives in school?

If the Government is going to do so, is the native to be supposed to do the rounding up, the corralling and marking, and to do the redomesticating of those wild deer? If they are expected to do this, who will pay the expense, and who will the deer belong to when it is done.

There are several thousand Government owned reindeer on the range that have been there for many years. These have had no care beyond what the natives have given them, and without any pay for that service.

There were 25 or more Government reindeer in the Teller Lomen herd at one time. What has become of them? They have disappeared from the reports several years ago. Does government property disappear in this way, and no one responsible for it.

A SAD CONDITION

The Eskimos have been begging and pleading for eight years and more, for the Department that has the responsibility to protect them, to see that they have a square deal and some attention paid to their protests.

Several reports have been made on the matter. At least two or three of these have been favorable to the natives and are believed to advise immediate action in their favor. They are pigeonholed. Year after year has dragged along, with the native property slowly going to ruin and now it is still being put off. It is a sad condition.

A MISUNDERSTANDING

It seems to be the belief of many in the States and in Washington, D. C., that the Lomen Corporation herds are mixed in all of the native herds. It is not so, although not through any lack of attempt on the part of the corporation. It has mixed as far as they were able to mix them. They have driven over the country in the northwest, and did it with "half-wild and poorly domesticated reindeer," and did not take proper precautions to prevent their mixing. At one place they stayed a summer on the range of a native herd. At another place they stayed on the range of another native herd, or herds, for a year, and ate their range out to the ground.

The Great Trek, at page 132 says;

"But the climax was the speed with which this big herd cleaned off the moss of the new territory."

There is the confession of their own "CONDUCTOR," who handled the matter by airplane.

But there are only a few herds, and nearly all are on the Seward Peninsula, that are

badly mixed. And this seems to have been done deliberately, to take advantage of the Eskimo. The rest of the herds have been ruined by the propaganda of OPEN HERDING—NO HERDING AT ALL.

REMARKABLE LACK OF INFORMATION

For the past twenty years there have been no reports issued from either the School Service or the Reindeer Service in Alaska. From 1891 to 1906 there was each year, a very complete report of the condition and the transactions in the Reindeer Service. From 1886 to 1918 there were reports made of the School Service. They contained reports on the reindeer up to 1918. For those years the condition is better known and the record is clearer than it has ever been since. In fact, recently there has been practically no reports made of the business of the Reindeer Service, as a Government publication that has been put out to the public.

For the past seven years there has been appropriated the sum of over thirty thousand dollars every year.

In 1918, the last year there was a reindeer report in the School Report, made, that gives a real report issued in print, there was only \$5000 allowed.

The Governor's report for the year 1933 contains the information that;

"The obvious result is that the herds have disintegrated, to the point where animals may be seen on the range in any size groups of one or more. Mixing of animals from the several ranges has freely occurred, so that in any round-up there is a large admixture of strays." Report, p. 20.)

The reports since that time have given a little more, but it is very meagre and indefinite. The evidence is, that the army of reindeer that roams the northern tundra has disintegrated. The drillmasters have lost control of their squads, and they were combined and are supposed to have been made into companies. The companies were not controlled, and there was sought to be brigades formed, called "UNITS." Now they catch what they can and the rest run wild.

The result has been that the army is routed and dispersed and hardly a corporal's guard can be found. Yet non-natives are expecting to sell to Uncle Sam, and an amendment to the bill introduced removes the provision for a count to be made.

In the hearings one Member said that it was like pulling teeth to get information. Some one said an appraisal had been made. Where is the record of it? Why the amendment that took away the native rights to handle his property? Why the amendment to eliminate the counting of the herds of the white interests?

Would any business man proceed to make a deal without an inventory of the property he is purchasing?

The purchasing the property that corpo-

rations and others have abstracted from natives by sharp practice is probably the best move that can be made. But why these methods of accomplishing it?

What the native has asked is, that the incubus that has lain on him and his business for these twenty years be removed, and that he be given a chance to do something, and given help to market enough of his product to pay the costs of the production. The amendments appear to be made in the interest of the corporation that maintains a lobby in Washington, D. C.

HERITAGE

Your fathers watched, where you now stand,
The deer they had made their own
Their herds intact on tundra land—
Strong antlered bucks and gentle does.
They watched them well, 'gainst wolves their
foes,
Guarding the wealth of Eskimos.

They watched the fawning in the spring,
On mossy slopes safe from the wind.

Their tupeks near some flowing stream,
Where children and their women kind
Picked willow buds and grasses green,
And stirred the bubbling pot at e'en,
Or sat while making garments warm,
As in and out their needles sped
Through deerskins with the sinew thread.
Or gathered eggs on tundra leas
And plucked the geese for feather bed.
They lived their nomad lives at ease.
And knew no dearth, nor any need.

Oh come, ye sons of fathers old,
And 'prentice herder-boys of yore,
Round up with steady hearts and bold
Your wealth of deer—your scattered herds
Your peace and plenty—wealth in store—
Your peoples' goodly heritage.

These verses were sent to "THE ESKIMO" by a friend of your people who has lived with and knows you, one who is interested in your welfare and likes you.

SHELTER HUTS FOR REINDEER HERDERS

A news item states that the Government through the CCC is building a line of shelter cabins for reindeer herders from Point Hope to the Noatak.

Forty years ago the natives at Teller range were building their own shelter huts. The report of 1896 says,

"We have determined to build huts for next winter's camping, and have sent several deer loads of suitable logs there for the purpose." (Reindeer Report 1896, pp. 46-47.)

Two years before that, two log houses were built for the married herders and "a log building erected at the east end of Grantley harbor for the use of the herders in the winter." (Rep. 1894, p. 9.)

In 1896, "the herders and apprentices

have been with the herd 60 miles away from the station much of the time".

"Three sod houses 10 by 16 feet in size lined with lumber were erected at winter quarters for 1896-7 on the Agheepuk River for shelter of herders and their families. Several smaller sod huts were erected at the new station on the Unalakleet River." (Ed. Rep. on Rd. 1896-7, p. 1629.)

What became of these shelter cabins constructed by natives and by the help of reindeer teams? THE TELLER RANGE SHELTERS WERE ALL TAKEN BY LOMEN & COMPANY, when they bought the mission herd entrusted to the Teller mission by the Government to distribute among these same natives. It took the deer that had been distributed to natives, into their herd. It still holds them. It appropriated their lands, charged them as high as \$1.94 a year herd bill, and absorbed all their increase and nearly all their reindeer. In later years the corporation wanted to take the rest of the deer at \$2.00 per head. Is it to be wondered that these people have lost courage and write a letter like the one heading this paper? And outside of building shelter cabins at a point three hundred miles from this range something should be done to make amends to the Teller, the Wales, the Igloo and the Golovin natives. There is no complaint about the CCC building herders cabins for the Tigara-Noatak line, but for eight years the cases of the natives who have suffered from aggression have been neglected and are now being. The plunder of reindeer progressed until 1936, is on the record, probably is progressing now and it looks probable it will during 1938 under the waiting a whole year to get an estimate from the non-native owners how many deer they think they have.

This is part of what has destroyed the morale of these people that they had twenty years ago? They had it till 1923 in Kivalina herd. Onalik had his own sod cabin on the creeks southeast of Kivalina, and his herder Robert lived there and took care of the herd. They were doing business "On their own." Charlie Sokona had his cabin at Cape Thompson, forty miles from Kivalina, he asked no help.

THE MERGING POLICY

It was hoped that the merging of herds advocated by the Lomen Corporation and some Government officials, was dead. But as late as 1936 it cropped up in two parts of the North, above the Arctic Circle. It especially consisted in proposing to put Kotzebue into Kivalina-Noatak herd, and to combine Icy Cape, Wainwright, and the Barrow Herds.

If any one can show an improvement in any increase in the size of the herds in Alaska by the combining of herds, it is asked that some one speak up and show it. So

far, the bigger the herds the poorer the management.

Take Kivalina as an example, in 1924 every herd was under good management, a local superintendent could go to any herd in one day, and see it.

It combined its five herds. Then went in with Noatak, and later took in Pootoomea's reindeer.

In 1932—there were counted 42,158 reindeer

In 1933—no count

In 1934—counted 38,125

In 1935—no count

In 1936—counted 15,572

This was in 1932 the largest herd in Alaska. Does it show improvement?

Look at the SWEDISH LAW on strays. Sweden has run reindeer for perhaps a thousand years, and still does. Isn't it time that the United States take some notice of what other people do? The U. S. has made the biggest failure in history on the reindeer, and has done it mostly in the past ten years.

KIDNAPPING A NATIVE

In the record of the Kendrick Committee of 1931, at page 195, appears the statement, "one year we kidnapped that native and brought him to Nome. Finally after he had been under observation for some days, the Doctor told me he was not crazy—he was foxy. That Eskimo used to control a trout stream. Every Eskimo who got fish in the stream must pay him in fox skins. That Eskimo controlled the finest sealing point on the island." I was partly instrumental in having that man kidnapped and brought to Nome."

The record at Nome is said to show that the Eskimo was caged in the hold of the schooner, brought to Nome, accused of stealing, but the Grand Jury discharged him. He was accused of being insane, and the Doctor found him sane. The Eskimo was kept in Nome for a year before he was allowed to go home.

Is this the proper manner in which to treat a citizen of the U. S.?

Is it any wonder that the man from Wales asks "Is the Government on our side to help us?"

"G" men are needed in Alaska.

TAKING FULL CONTROL OF PROPERTY FROM NATIVES

On top of above treatment of the natives, comes an amendment to a bill eliminating the right of natives to discuss and propose rules for their district on handling their reindeer. Sweden provides for this on the management of the Lap reindeer in that country. Why should not the Alaska reindeer owner have the same privilege. He has managed reindeer for forty years, and until he was interrupted and his deer taken by this corporation he was competent and suc-

cessful as the record shows.

Why was this provision of the bill eliminated?

Following this was an amendment taking all management of the native reindeer out of the hands of the owner. Why was this done?

Is it a matter of wonder that the native asks, "IS THE GOVERNMENT ON OUR SIDE TO HELP US?"

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

In 1936 a committee from the Senate, on Indian Affairs visited Alaska. It is without doubt that they did the best they could to acquire knowledge of the situation in the brief time they could allot to the matter. In the Indian At Work of January 1937, was an assurance that "The printed text of the hearings will be available within thirty days," and "copies may be obtained etc."

So far no copies have been seen. Have all of them been buried along with the hearings of the BOARD of 1934-36 the Ryan Report of 1933 and the Nash reports of 1934?

Those findings and the hearings would be of much interest and value to those who are interested in the native and his welfare.

It is not believed that those who are working in the cause will be treated as the "SURVEY" of 1933 treated those who made protests against conditions, call it "attack by Government representatives based on personal animosity," (Survey Feb. 15, 1933, p 8) and "outside interference."

What would the condition have been had not some one asked for the investigations, and what are the results of those inquiries? The SURVEY is unsigned. Reports are pigeon-holed?

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THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 7, No. 3

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

JULY, 1940

THE PURCHASE OF THE REINDEER

From Hon. Edward T. Taylor, member of Congress of Colorado comes the statement that Mr. Chas. G. Burdick, special representative of the Secretary of the Interior, who was sent to Alaska to "head up the reindeer-acquisition program" had reported on the success of his work.

On January 1, 1940 Mr. Burdick arrived at Nome, Alaska. On February 1, 1940 Mr. Burdick began his work, and continuing to about April 15th, 1940; reindeer roundups were "held on practically all ranges where non-native ownership was involved."

This work was carried on pursuant to the Third Deficiency Act of Congress, fiscal year 1939, "containing an appropriation of \$795,000 for the purchase of non-native-owned reindeer and reindeer property in Alaska, and for necessary administrative expenses" thereon.

Aerial surveys were made by Mr. Burdick, General Reindeer Supervisor Rood, non-native owners or their representatives, and Eskimo chief herders who were familiar with the location of reindeer on the ranges . . . On other ranges round-up counts were checked against data in the files of the United States Reindeer Service . . . At most roundups the Government furnished subsistence supplies to the Eskimo herders, although on some ranges it was necessary to pay wages in addition to subsistence."

"Every assistance was afforded non-native owners in locating their reindeer for sale to the Government. All of the non-native owners, except the Lomen interests, cooperated in varying degree in sharing the cost of reindeer roundups. All of the Lap owners donated their labor throughout the period of reindeer roundups and in handling, marking and castrating the reindeer, with the Government supplied supplies. Williams and Traeger furnished no labor but paid half the subsistence costs at roundups . . . Many owners are disappointed that they are not receiving more money, but practically all feel that they have been dealt with fairly. The price paid ranges from \$3 to \$8 per head."

"On the mainland area from Kotzebue Sound to Kvichak Bay, in Bristol Bay, the

\$3 evaluation governed exclusively. This figure was arrived at on the basis that the reindeer had little value to the non-native owners, but that was a fair value to the Government in extinguishing non-native equity and establishing a native economy."

The reindeer on Umnak Island was valued at \$4 a head. The basis for agreement on this price was that it would cost the Government more than the actual amount paid for the Umnak Island reindeer, to establish a reindeer herd on the island if there were no reindeer already there."

There is an interesting fact relating to the Umnak Island herd. On the Revenue Cutter "Manning" in September 1913 there were 36 reindeer furnished by the Bureau of Education taken to Umnak Island on a request from the Biological Survey of the Agricultural Department. (Report Bur. of Ed. 1914, p. 11.) In 1923 the Coast Guard Cutter report shows 1000 reindeer on the island. The reindeer were turned over to a sheep rancher, probably the Aleutian Livestock Co. which is now selling them back to the Government.

"The price agreed upon for the reindeer on Nunivak Island was \$6.50 a head."

In the Naknek area the price agreed upon was \$6 per head. The basis of the agreement was in the Naknek region a local market exists for all reindeer meat that can be produced and that the established price for reindeer meat is 15 cents a pound. The price of reindeer skins in this area is \$3 each. A small herd south of Naknek was acquired at a price of \$8 a head. This was a compromise offer for the purpose of avoiding condemnation costs, and the reindeer had that value to the owner."

Nunivak Island was asked for as a reservation for the native Eskimos residing there by the Bureau of Education who wished to have reindeer placed there as a means of living for the 186 native inhabitants. A superintendent of the Bureau of Education examined the island in or about 1917, and reported it as excellent reindeer range. The Secretary of the Interior refused the island as a reservation to the natives but set aside half the island for a bird reserve for the Biological Survey. Then

the Lomen Corporation placed reindeer on it. The Biological Survey placed animals, alleged to be caribou bulls, on the island, as breeding stock in a kind of partnership with the Lomen Corporation. In order to get reindeer meat on the island the natives were required to pay the Lomen Corporation 15c per lb., the native to kill the deer and bring in the meat. If a deer died and a native set a trap by the carcass, he was compelled to pay part of the fur caught to the Corporation. Under these conditions the deer, listed at 17,000 were bred on Indian lands, and are now sold at \$6.50 per head.

The total number of reindeer purchased was 82,538 animals, and the total amount paid was \$328,614. The largest lots of reindeer purchased were in part as follows, Alaska Livestock & Packing Co., (Lomen Co.) 25,000, amount paid \$75,000; Nunivak Development Co., (Lomen), 17,000; amount paid \$110,500. Pioneer Reindeer Company, 13,500, amount \$40,500; Pioneer Reindeer Co., 6,000, amount \$36,000. Frank P. Williams, 2,530, amount \$7,590.

The improvements and equipment relating to the reindeer business were valued at \$112,925.72, the larger part of these being purchased of the Lomen Corporations, at following locations. Egavik, \$19,175.80; Nunivak \$4,735.18; Nabachtolik \$175.; Choris Peninsula, \$75.; Golovin \$22,360.63; Elephant Point \$21,376.86; Teller \$21,284.25.

The total appropriation was \$720,000. The amount expended is \$445,916.72, leaving an unexpended balance of \$274,083.28.

The appropriation for expenses was \$75,000. Of this amount \$48,300 was used in the work, and \$26,700 was applied to the construction of skin-drying sheds and purchasing equipment and supplies for the native industry.

Mr. Burdick has done his work as well as possible under the conditions. It is hoped that it closes a most unfair and unfortunate condition beginning about 25 years ago from greedy corporations and men breaking into the reindeer industry against the Rules and Regulations of the U. S. Interior Department.

No other result could be expected from such action. The business is one that is only to be followed by a primitive people who live in the inclement and unproductive region in the North. The land requires from 30 to 60 acres to sustain a reindeer. The animals require to be herded and cared for as are sheep in arid areas. Otherwise they become the prey of predatory animals and men. The industry will not stand overhead expense. The animals must be followed from place to place by the herders, as one range is eaten out the herd must be moved to new pastures.

It is hoped that the Eskimos may now again build up their holdings and handle their herds in a manner that will give them and their descendants a livelihood such as is enjoyed in the northern part of the Old World by the Laps, Samoyeds and other native peoples of that northern country.

NATIVES HAD INSUFFICIENT PROTECTION FOR PROPERTY

Walter Shields, the Superintendent of the Northwestern District, for years urged the protection of the Eskimo against the aggression of the white man which has been so prevalent in all the frontier of the U. S. He was supported in this by Wm. T. Lopp, the Chief of the Division.

Mr. Shields, being on the ground and seeing the growing need, specially appreciated it. He saw the continued threat of aggression from the rapidly increasing white population of miners, reckless, none too considerate of the rights of others, who were frantic in the pursuit of the search of gold. Some of them were seeking means for plundering their fellow goldseekers, as is manifest in the case of the "SPOILERS" the history of which is widely known through the writings of Mr. Rex Beach.

The whole of the white interests with few exceptions were antagonistic to the native and to the management of the reindeer work, and their influence reached to Washington as shown in the decisions on the island of Nunivak in the reserving of that area for the use of the Biological Survey and the Lomen Corporations, and refusing an application for the native use.

The Norwegian element led the attack. Kjelmann proposed and conducted the movement to found a Lap colony. He brought 113 Norwegians, Laps and Finns to America in pursuance of that plan. He also attempted personally to accumulate reindeer while he was a superintendent, but was prevented it has been stated. Jafet Lindeberg came as one of the immigration brought by Kielmann. He became rich by mining and then brought reindeer.

The Laps assigned to the herds of the missions accumulated herds faster than did the natives at the same herd, faster than the mission and the natives at the mission, when the object of the whole was to give the native a chance to get an education in stockraising, as well as in the education in living in the condition of civilization. By 1912 the missions and Laps had succeeded in securing possession of 1927 reindeer as loans with which to begin stockraising. The largest assignment of reindeer to the natives was 120 deer to Reindeer Charlie and four others in 1895. The rest earned their deer

by service as apprentices at from six to ten deer per annum.

By 1914 the Laps and missions had accumulated 15,931 reindeer, although the Laps did not get a loan until 1901 and some till 1906. By 1914, the income of the Laps and missions from sale of reindeer products was \$16,547.

This shows the opposition in the industry that the natives had to encounter from these two sources alone. And the threat of a stronger opposition was pending, had already begun. In this year a corporation, Lomen & Co. had been incorporated to enter the business, and sold about \$100,000 in stock for capital with which to carry on the attack. They attacked at a point where a Lap, employed as herder for the Kotzebue Mission, had driven a wedge between native herds by cutting off the mission-native herd at Kotzebue, at the neck of the Kotzebue Peninsula, by placing a fence, called the Lap fence at the narrowest part, thus excluding the mission-native herd from lands at the south previously used as grazing land by their reindeer and confining them to the small area of the Kotzebue Peninsula. By this the Lap took nearly all the range from the Buckland River to the Selawik, an immense area, estimated at 2,901,115 acres in the Lomen Reindeer estimates before the Reindeer Committee of 1931. This area was claimed by the Corporation in their purchase of the deer of the Lap Nilima in 1914.

Here was an open attack proceeding from the scheme of the Lap Colony projected by Mr. Kjellmann in 1896.

Superintendent Shields commenced his protests against the lack of protection by the Government for the natives, against these attacks as early as 1912. This is shown by the records of the Bureau of Education.

October 29, 1915 Supt. Shields wrote to the Chief of the Alaska Division, enclosing a tentative allotment of the lands of the native herds on the Seward Peninsula, prepared by him, accompanied by a map also prepared by him, showing the boundaries of the lands claimed by the natives at that time. He wrote;

"This has been done with the idea, first to avoid any trouble in the future between different herds on account of rival claims to the same grounds. The settling of these boundaries will cause all such trouble to cease in the future.

In addition to avoiding any trouble between native herders I have in view the idea of getting some kind of title to these grazing grounds for the natives so that no matter what developments may occur in the industry along the line of the entrance of whites as owners of herds, the

natives may be protected in their rights to the grounds that their herds and the Government herds have been grazing over in the past."

He also adds;

"If the Nilima-Lomen herd divide and the independent Lapp owners decide to separate, we will have a very hard time adjusting their ground."

Superintendent Shields foresaw all the trouble of the Teller, Golovin, Buckland and Egavik herds and ranges, all of which had been occupied by native herds before the Lomen Corporations wedged in and expropriated them.

Mr. Shields had already written in 1913 in his report to the Commissioner of Education in Washington;

"There is more pressure being brought each year to enable whites . . . to purchase deer . . .

It is very hard to understand how anyone can have the effrontery to expect that after the Government has put an industry into the country for the natives it could than take it from the natives and hand it over to the whites who for years did everything to hurt the industry. There is also a sentimental reason which should have a little weight.

"The reindeer industry which is now considered so wonderfully successful, is not the result of the money that Congress put into it. It is the result of the work of men who practically gave the best of their lives to it. It is the result of the hardest kind of work and the greatest amount of sacrifice on the part of the men who were not paid for their labor by the salaries paid them by the Government. They did it because of their interest in the Eskimos, and for them only . . .

They wanted to give them an industry that would give them some "reason for being" during the coming centuries."

From this it may be seen where there was the need for the expense, and for the payment of the money for the reindeer purchased as shown in the before mentioned pages. These people butted in, pushed the native out and took his property.

For more than ten years this matter of recognition of the wrongs placed upon the native has been presented, and delayed. Now the aggressors have been bought off, what will be done to restore the natives and to recompense them for the injustices inflicted on them? It is hoped that they may be justly and reasonably restored in the conditions and morale that existed among them a quarter of a century ago. They are yet in the transition from primitive life to the task of meeting the strenuous demands of the present day. They need sympathetic

guidance, and protection in their rights. They have not had their day in court. To this time the decisions by higher authority have been in too many cases against them. Their rights of property have been taken away from them in many ways. This needs rectifying.

WHAT IS THE SITUATION ON THE LEASES

Twenty five years have passed since the appeal of Supt. Shields was made. Before Congress in the Senate App. Bill for Int. Dept., for 1941 the following statements were made at page 239.

Mr. Burlew; "Oh, yes; we have a leasing law which we have never put into effect because of the impracticability of doing it."

"We have never had the help to send men to Alaska to lease the land. You have to make surveys as to carrying capacity, and so forth, before you can lease it. We have never been able to do it. We have made one or two small leases."

Mr. Wilson, "The Eskimo has demonstrated that he can make a success of the reindeer business. From the time they were introduced until the white man got into the business about 1914 the Eskimo demonstrated, with the assistance that was given Government, that he could and did make a success of the reindeer business."

Senator Hayden, "Do you think that the difficulty arose from the fact that non-natives were permitted to acquire title to the reindeer?"

Mr. Wilson, "It was the divided ownership and divided responsibility. The situation is such that the reindeer now are everybody's business, and that means nobody's business."

It has been shown to the Department of the Interior, that the white man has been encroaching on the Eskimo's lands and reindeer for twenty five years or more. The land that the white man occupied has been alienated from the Eskimo in defiance of law and equity because of no lease. The Eskimo's reindeer has been taken into the white men's herds for years in hundreds, in thousands, under the fiction of "co-owner," and the Eskimo has been charged unreasonable fees for herding that was not done, and on lands that the Eskimo occupied with his deer before the White man and his corporations had any rights in any way. And for this herding, on the land the Eskimo should have had rights upon, he has been subjected to the white man's domination, and he was hired as a herder over reindeer that he owned before the white man took them into possession by expropriation.

Could a white man succeed in a business under these conditions?

This situation was placed before the Interior Department in 1929, in a written statement of the fact that nearly TEN THOUSAND native owned reindeer were held by one corporation under a fiction of "CO-OWNER" and had been charged as high as \$1.94 per head for one year of herding, and that the Corporation had made range rules that deer would be taken at \$3 per head for those herding bills. It was later shown that the said corporation in 1930 attempted to sell those deer so acquired, to the DEAR PEOPLE of the U. S. at \$25 for females, \$10 for bulls, and \$5 for steers and fawns.

A committee was appointed to consider the matter. The committee ignored the protest above mentioned and proceeded to consider the PROPOSED PLAN OF THE CORPORATION to have a monopoly of the sale of all reindeer products on a commission of 10% on meat and 15% on skins.

In the House hearings for 1941, at page 569 appears the following testimony;

Mr. Burlew; presented a memorandum from the General Land Office dated February 9, 1939, in which appears;

"During 1931 three leases were granted to Associations of natives" . . .

"In 1932 the Field Service submitted a number of reports on reindeer grazing lease applications . . . During the early part of 1933 three additional leases were issued to natives and leases were authorized on 14 other applications, three to whites (the Lomens) and the other 11 to natives.

The proposed leases offered the Lomens were not signed and returned by them to this office. On June 15, 1933, in response to a telegraphic request from Mr. Carl J. Lomen, President of the Alaska Livestock and Packing Co. he was advised that further action on the proposed grazing leases to the company would be withheld until December 1st, 1933, and on November 23, 1933, a further extension was granted pursuant to his request."

Who had the consideration in this matter? It has dragged along for seven years since that time. Is it not time that some consideration was given to the Eskimo reindeer owners in the matter of issuing leases for the other holdings so each owner may know what lands he has rights upon, and on which he can protect himself from aggression? One step has been taken—perhaps the greatest obstacle removed, but there are others that have been ignored for 25 years since the appeal of Superintendent Shield was made.

Does not the law approved March 4, 1927, provide;

"The Secretary shall, as far as is consistent with the efficient administration of the grazing district, prefer (1) natives, (2) other occupants of the range, and (3) settlers over all other applicants.

The corporations are not settlers. The natives were settlers previous to the coming of the White Man. When was his title extinguished?

The Assistant Secretary tangled in his testimony, it appears. In one case he said "ONE OR TWO SMALL ONES GRANTED." Then he said "Only 3 issued," and later he presented the statement, addressed to him in 1939 that six had been granted and 14 others approved, and that they had been held since June 15th, 1933, in response to a telegraphic request from Mr. Carl J. Lomen.

FAITH IN THE ESKIMO

Mr. Wilson, above quoted, shows that he has faith in the Eskimo and his reindeer business.

This is comforting to the native people. I feel sure that they will justify the confidence if they are given a chance and fair consideration. **THE ESKIMO HAS NOT HAD HIS DAY IN COURT.**

A WORD TO THE REINDEER MEN

Just as soon as this matter of getting rid of non-native holders of reindeer is settled — get your own deer together. Each man or company get your own, Get your lease for your range. Go to doing your reindeer business properly. Do it right. You know how—**DO IT.** You have let schemers fool you into trying the easy way. You see that it does not pay.

Get every deer that belongs to outsiders out of your herd. If they don't come for their deer sell them as the Law of 1913, Compiled Laws of Alaska, prescribes for **ESTRAYS.** You can't afford to take care of other men's deer. It is enough to take care of your own. You should not let other men's deer eat out your range.

Get at it and raise a rumpus till it is done.

Then when anybody tries to put over anything that is not good reindeer practice, **ROAR** about it. Fight till it is stopped. If you sit still and say nothing—**YOU WILL GET NOTHING BUT MUD.** When anything gets fastened on you it is hard to get rid of it. No difference whether it is a wolf, a coyote or a white man's company. You see it has taken a ten year fight to get rid of the **CO-OWNER** scheme?

Then tend to your reindeer business or you will not have any. When you do not hunt seal, you get no oil. When you do not care for your reindeer you will have none.

The deer of one village in a herd is plenty. Sometimes too many. Sometimes better one man and his family to have one herd. Then he has no fusses with men who will not take care of the deer or pay to have it done. Then if a man will not pay for taking care of his deer, let him kill them and go seal hunting.

Don't have a Unit herd, and if the Deering deer are in Wales and Wales deer in Deering. Every one take care of his own —Don't try to let **GEORGE** do it.

A BID FOR THE BANKRUPT

Under the heading "A NEW REINDEER ERA", the Alaska Weekly of Seattle, Wash., Nov. 24, 1939, speaks of the purchase of the non-native held reindeer as "Hats off to the reindeer owners . . . who induce the **NEW DEAL** Administration to pay for what it wanted."

The Gentlemanly Editor of the "Alaska Weekly" says some very good things sometimes. On this subject it would be better for him to be silent and stick to a subject on which he is informed.

The reindeer business is one in which no one other than a Lap or an Eskimo, one who lives in that country and wishes and is qualified to follow his business and his reindeer, through all sorts of weather, should venture.

Certain people, who wished to get a monopoly of the reindeer industry through gaining control of the native industry and reducing the natives to the position of herd-ers for them, failed at it. These schemers then turned to sell out to the **DEAR PEOPLE** in a big-sub-corporation scheme, and failed again. They then turned to the Government to give the native and his reindeer into their hands as easy money under a "**PROPOSED PLAN,**" which failed to work. Finally they resorted to a sale to Uncle Sam.

Now the approval above mentioned leaves a question as to whether the mentioned Editor suggests that the Government should bail out every speculator who fails in Fly-By-Night schemes by the public purse—or not. Does he consider this a precedent? Would he suggest it be resorted to universally?

As a matter of fact, the case is one of bailing non-natives out of a very uncomfortable predicament, and as such it was possibly the best way out of the scrape.

THE WOLF MENACE

The menace of the wolf packs has not abated appears from an item in the Alaska Miner of July 9th, which states; that pilot Don Glass, "said he had seen wolves in ever growing numbers during cross country flights and that moose never travel singly any more because of the wolves but are seen in bands of eight or more."

It is unusual for moose to band together in this number. The wolves will not decrease so long as food is plenty, and the herds will furnish food as long as they are not guarded night and day. Wolves kill for the love of slaughter, as well as for food. Every well fed wolf bitch will bear a litter of six pups. Wolves will increase until they are prevented by enough men to guard the reindeer, day and night. This must be done until the wolves are gone.

When the first herds were kept, they were guarded night and day. The herders were so faithful that instances are on the record that the night herders stayed for twenty four hours when the day herders could not find the herd in a storm.

HERD DOGS

Dogs are almost an absolute necessity to the herd. How many dogs are there with

the herds in Alaska? The dog senses the presence of a wolf long before a herder does. It will give the alarm. A sheep herder could never handle his herd without a dog. One of the early things Dr. Jackson did was to get dogs from Lapland to use in the work. Five pairs were bought in Lapland, and of these 9 reached Teller in 1895. From these the Lap dogs were distributed from Iliamna to Barrow. As late as 1925 Wainwright herders kept two herd dogs each. Deering had herd dogs in 1929. I did not see a herd dog in 1939, from St. Lawrence Id. to Barrow.

THE ESKIMO

C. L. ANDREWS, Editor and Publisher

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NUMBER AND CONDITION OF REINDEER IN ALASKA

It is regretted that there is not more knowledge to be had of the number of reindeer in Alaska. It is unfortunate that neither the committee of 1938, who went to Alaska and had at hand \$50,000 with which to count the reindeer, did not make a complete report by herds of their counts, and of the counts of all the herd that were counted in the Territory. The only published result from that count appears to be in the hearing of 1940 at page 617, which is as follows:

Unit	Native Owned	Lapp Owned	Lomen Owned	Other white and other	Total 1932	Total 1938
Buckland	35,055	357	10,088	1,088	46,588	2,195
Egavik	20,486	.....	12,154	1,029	33,669	7,729
Golovin	8,383	258	9,474	91	12,206	11,960
Teller	22,126	.....	2,517	42	24,685	4,426
Total	86,050	615	34,233	2,250	123,148	26,340

To have had a reliable base for the number of reindeer that belong to the natives and the number located at each herd would have been well for the natives, and of much interest to those who are and have been interested in their welfare.

There has been purchased in the four

SIZE OF REINDEER HERDS

The size of reindeer herds has been discussed several times in THE ESKIMO. In the June 1936 number attention was called to extracts from consuls in Lapland, stating as follows;

In Finland, the U. S. Consul says; "Tendency toward establishment of herd groups . . . shepherd herds from 200 to 600 deer." The consul at Oslo says. . . "found advantageous . . . to have small herds." "The reindeer flocks vary in size . . . in Finnmarken an Tromsøe they are about 500 head; in Nordland 250-300 head. In Nor Trondelag they have from 1000 to 3000, and in South Trondelag they have 3000. . . The deer must have care the year around. In Finnmarken they watch them day and night, and so in Tromsøe." John Ball Osborn, Consul General, Stockholm, Sweden states "Herds of more than 1000 are exceptional. The herds at certain times of the year must be watched continually both day and night."

The Reindeer Service found this to be the

herds formerly belonging to the Lomen Corporation, within about a thousand animals as many as there were counted in 1938, belonging to the natives and the Company, altogether. And in 1938 the natives owned 86,050 reindeer, to 34,233 owned by the corporation.

In the Lomen Golovin herd in 1938 there were counted 12,399 reindeer. Of these the corporation had in its mark at the close of the round-up and marking 9103, the remainder belonged to natives.

In 1940 the Golovin herd report shows

4765 reindeer counted total in the herd. Of these there were 3083 in the company mark, and the remainder belonged to native owners. The wolves had evidently taken toll.

The question is, how many reindeer were there on the ranges belonging to the natives, and how are they distributed?

better way, early in the history of the industry. As soon as a herd became a thousand or more they divided it and one herd sought new grazing areas. In 1906 Shishmaref had 509 deer, in 1909 the herd was divided.

Canada began with a larger herd than did the U. S. and she is herding them, as the Reindeer Service in Alaska did prior to the time that "Outside interference" broke in and corrupted the practice. The cost of the original herd to Canada was \$95,000. They received 2370 animals May 31, 1935. The main herd is on Richardson Island, part of the delta of the Machenzie River, and in 1938 a second herd was established at Anderson River, some 120 miles east of the first herd. A third herd is projected to be made at Horton River, east of Anderson River. Their policy is to continue the separating and distribution of the reindeer.

This was the policy of the Bureau of Education. It was carried on until 1914, by which time the reindeer had been distrib-

\$195,000

uted from the Alaska Peninsula to Point Barrow, to Atka Island, Umnak Island, the Pribilof Islands, to Metlakahtha on Annette Island, in the Kuskokwin Valley, the Yukon Valley, the Kobuk River Valley, and on the Noatak River.

In 1914, the attack began on the native herds by an incorporated company; in 1915 the consolidating of herds began by the corporation taking charge of the reindeer of a native herd and including the native deer in their holdings and charging them for the care and keeping.

In 1914 there were 78 herds in Alaska, one of which belonged to the Biological Survey, given to them by the Bureau of education; and one on the Pribilof Islands delivered to the Islands by the courtesy of the Revenue Cutter Service.

The delivery of the reindeer to these outlying places, as well as the transportation of most of the reindeer from Siberia, was accomplished by the Revenue Cutter Service, now the Coast Guard, which is entitled to great credit for their liberal aid given through many years.

The total number of reindeer in Alaska in 1914 was 57,872 animals, of which the natives owned 37,828; the Government 4,113; the Missions 5,924; Lapps and other whites 10,037. In the 78 herds this shows an average of 748 reindeer. The largest herd was the Egavik herd, owned by Laps and other in which they employed one native herder who had acquired 56 reindeer. The remainder of the herd, which totaled 3,046 was owned by Laps.

The policy of the whites and Laps was "big herds," and commercial profits.

INCOME FROM SALES OF MEAT, FREIGHTING, ETC.

The total income for the year 1914-15 was;	
For 1140 natives, owners, herders, etc	\$81,997
For 23 Laps, owners, herders, etc.	14,155
For 10 missions	4,774
	\$100,926

The natives lived from their herds principally, with some trapping for fur, and with hunting and fishing which they shared with other natives who had not acquired reindeer. They traded skins, reindeer meat, etc., for fish, seal oil and seal skins. The local consumption was not taken into account.

INDIAN LANDS

Does not the Government provide that some consideration shall be made the native people when their lands are taken by the Government or by private parties who are under the Government?

If so should not some attention be paid to the rights of the natives whose lands and whose reindeer were taken by corporations

between ten and twenty five years ago. There were three herds taken by a corporation in 1914 and 1921. The Lomen Corporation took the lands and the reindeer of the Golovin natives, the lands and the reindeer of the Teller natives, the lands and the reindeer of the Buckland natives, and of the Unalakleet natives. The Williams interests absorbed the deer of the native Oliver, and of Reindeer Mary, one of the first to get deer. These and others should have consideration.

THE NUNIVAK ISLAND RANGES AND REINDEER

In 1914 or about that time, the Superintendent of the district, considered the establishing a herd on Nunivak Island. He asked that the island be made a reserve for the Nunivak natives to use as range for reindeer. His application was refused by Bo Sweeney, asst. Secy. of the Int. for the reason that it might be wanted by stockmen for grazing. Had not the native the first right to the land as a stockman? Had the native titles been extinguished? When, and how? This excuse might have been allowed, but why, then, was the Biological Survey allowed a reservation for birds on that land and for contemplated experiments on reindeer, native caribou, and musk Ox?

In 1917, Nunivak Island was reported on by Supt. Walter Johnson of the Western District of the Bur. of Ed. of the Int. Dept. as being the best land he knew of for reindeer. The Chief of the Bur. of Education for Alaska, was endeavoring to arrange for placing reindeer on the island, when in 1920 the Lomen Corporation placed about 100 reindeer on the island. They later built a store building on the land, and conducted a merchandising business there with the natives. The corporation took the land from the natives. At time of planting their trading post there, the employees of the corporation kidnapped a native who claimed to have rights to the land the post was being established upon. The native was kept in Nome jail a year on various charges.

In 1931 the President of the Corporation stated that he had given the natives "a fair price on the meat as high as 15c a pound." The meat was reindeer meat produced on the native grounds. The natives had to kill the deer and pack the meat home on their backs, like wild meat. The natives sold their curios at the post. At that time the post had the natives in debt \$7000.

These natives had never owed a debt till this corporation took their lands, established a trading post and sold them reindeer meat and other articles. This was done when the natives wanted reindeer. (See **Reindeer Hearings**, Ofs. Secy. Int. 1931, page 194 et seq.)

These natives should have some recompense.

The Corporation never paid for a day's herding of the deer. They have now sold 17,000 head, uncouneted it appears, at \$6.50 per head, \$110,500.00, to the United States.

ESKIMO RIGHTS OF PROPERTY

The removal of the right of the Eskimo to "control" his own deer is to be deplored. He has handled them for forty years. He knows the reindeer business better than any one else. He has not learned the necessity of continuous effort, and needs oversight and encouragement. He has been discouraged by neglect in protection of his property rights.

Mr. Dodd, in Pt. 2, of the Hearing, of the House Committee on the justification of the estimate for the purchase of the reindeer, expressed the facts in reference to the matter. He said; "IT BECOMES ITS DUTY TO RETRIEVE THE GROUND LOST BY FAILURE TO SAFE GUARD ADEQUATELY AGAINST NON-NATIVE OWNERSHIP."

These natives built up an industry under the guidance of the Reindeer Service of the Bureau of Education of the Government. They did it and had the utmost respect for the manner in which they had been treated. They had faith in the Government. Even Mr. Lomen paid tribute to this in the 1931 hearing on reindeer, saying that "Government is the highest word in the vocabulary of the Eskimo."

Twenty five years of neglect has destroyed much of that. It has destroyed the morale of the Eskimo. It has discouraged him. It is quite sure that that confidence cannot be restored by the policy of lumping his property in with the property of six or eight companies and making an omelette of them.

Now, since the incubus that has oppressed the Eskimo for twenty five years has been lifted, why not encourage the Eskimo in a pride of having something that he can call his own. Why not get him once more to say, as an Eskimo said in 1915 at the Reindeer Fair at Igloo, "See those deer coming—they are our reindeer."

Let any man who wants his own separate deer, have them. Let him be an example to the rest to care for and protect his own herd.

ESKIMO BROTHERHOOD

There should be an Eskimo Brotherhood of Reindeer men organized, like Walter Shields began when he held the reindeer fairs. Shields believed in the practical part of the work. He visited the herds, driving reindeer. In this way he came in contact with the natives and traveled with them. In 1915 his report shows that his average day's travel was 28 miles. His reindeer made their way even when the snow was

shoulder deep. The first Reindeer Fair was at Igloo in January 1915.

Shields held his fairs at or near the Eskimo villages, and in the midst of the reindeer men. Every reindeer man prepared for the event. New Parkas and boots — new harness and sleds. The races were with reindeer, not with dogs. Dogs cost to keep and feed, dog racing is a costly game. It flourished best when Nome was gathering gold by the millions and it was held at the center of a riot of rum and gambling where money flowed like water.

When the fair at Noatak was held men came from Wainwright and Barrow, six or seven hundred miles. There was no drinking or carousing, no bootlegging or pool-halls. It was all clean fun, and no betting, all for prizes to the winner, an amateur game.

The old time reindeer men will remember, how there was cooking of good bread and reindeer meat in the big cook tent. And there were songs;

"The Reindeer Men, they came from the North,

They came a long, long, way,
The Reindeer Men they came from the South,

They drove for many a day;
Reindeer from all around,

They traveled to the Fair,
And when they got to Noatak,
They shouted to them there.

Chorus

It's a long way to Noatak

It's a long way to go,

It's a long way to Noatak,

To the Reindeer Fair's big show."

Now, before the old Reindeer Men are all gone, can't you get together and hold a fair or two at some points, and get the young men to talk with you, and break some reindeer and take them to the fair and have races, and have your reindeer so you can find them and lasso them and break them at the fair. Have a herd right there, to work from. In the year that Mr. Shields had his fair at Igloo there were 1618 trained sled deer in Alaska. There were 156 being broken and trained. How many are there now?

When I was at Barrow in 1924 there were a few there, of broken deer, they in earlier years had many, in 1915 they had 45. In Kivalina when I left there in April 1924 to travel by reindeer to Wainwright and Barrow, Kivalina had about 40. At Wainwright all the work at the herds was done with sled deer. When I wanted to get out to the herd, any one of the three there at that place, I got word to the herd and they sent a reindeer team which took me out. At Deering in 1929, the work at the herds was done with reindeer. I have photographs of the teams leaving Deering to go to the herds.

Two years ago Seveck, of Kivalina began to try to get the work at his herd back into shape. He wrote me that he had 12,000 deer in three herds, all tamed so that they could be handled and driven. He had near forty sled deer broken, he reported. I have not been able to get word since then. I went to Alaska to find out just such information, but the ship would not let me land at Kivalina, so I did not find out.

Now can't the reindeer men get back on their feet, and do the work in the good old way, and take care of the reindeer, instead of the young men getting a few dollars working in the mines and other ways, and spending it in getting boozed and lying on the snowbanks by the trail and getting consumption? White men do just such fool tricks. I have seen them. Eskimos should know better.

WOLVES ON THE RANGE

You will not get the wolves off the range, till you stay at your herds, protect your deer, and kill the wolves. Some say the wolves will die when the deer are killed. That is too late, you will have no deer left at that time.

From Akiak, Alaska (letter); "In February we do as well as we could do in the roundup and in our corrals, in those three important corrals where the P. (Pioneer) R. (Reindeer) Co., had the deers, Akulikotak corral, count both K.—? Co. and P. R. Co. ran through chutes 13,000 deer. Plenty of wolves. In one day we saw 28 in a bunch and killed only 3 of them. I tell you the truth, wherever the reindeer grazing where such destroyers around them, and the people potlatching, the deer could not last long with nobody to protect them."

This man has sense. If you had your wife and children out where the wolves are, do you think they would live long with no way to protect them? Well! wolves eat both people and reindeer. Did you ever read "Red Riding Hood?"

Wainwright; Item Aug. 2, 1940. "The deer are doing well, and I see no reason why we will not get the herds back to the highest level of efficiency. I think we can, and in fact the deer are now already re-domesticated that when we were camping down the coast. The herd and reindeer camp was only a mile below us where they were marking fawns. Taming them is a great thing and our herders are doing that. Of course the boys are keeping them day and night. There were about four hundred still born this spring including fawns died from other causes. There were many barren females. Cause not enough adult bucks."

This herd and the people are getting at it in the right spirit.

HERD DOGS—LAP

Wainwright tells me that they have enough Lap dogs to handle their herds, and it will not be necessary for them to get more. Here is a chance for those Wainwright boys to make a little money. Breed and train the Lap dogs as fast as you can, and sell to other herds. There should be a good market in herds farther south. It is very lucky that the breed has been kept there. They got the start from Norwegian Lapland in the beginning.

ORIGINAL STOCK BROUGHT FROM LAPLAND

The original stock of 5 pairs of Lap dogs, 10 trained animals, were brought from Lapland. The expense of bringing them was paid by Mrs. Wm. Thaw, of Pittsburg, Pa. \$350; Mrs. Elliott F. Shepard, New York, \$250; Miss Mary L. Kennedy, New York, \$200; Mr. John Nicholas Brown, Providence, R. I., \$100; Mrs. Helen Sinclair Robinson, Hawaiian Islands, \$50; Mr. H. O. Houghton, Boston, \$50.

The dogs were brought by way of New York, Seattle, San Francisco, and from there by whaling ship on the brig **W. H. Myers**, and reached the Teller Reindeer Station, Port Clarence, Alaska, July 29th, 1894. Only 8 of the dogs reached Alaska, but two puppies were born on the way. So all the Lap reindeer dogs in Alaska came from those 8 dogs brought in 1894.

Congratulations to Wainwright people for saving the breed. Are there any others at any herd? A letter will be thankfully received by **THE ESKIMO**, Eugene, Or., 1734 Villard St. Isabel S. Shepard, wife of a Revenue Cutter Captain, went with her husband, on a cruise to Alaska. On her return she wrote a book, which I wish to get. If any one can furnish a copy please notify me of cost and address.

WAY APPRENTICES GOT FIRST REINDEER

It may be interesting to know how long boys had to work to get reindeer back in 1893 to 1900 or after. Antesarlook, afterward known as "Reindeer Charley" was one of the first Eskimo boys or men taken as an apprentice to herd the reindeer. He was allotted 121 reindeer for himself, and his four brothers, I-zik-sik, Kok-to-wak, I-up-puk, and Soo-va-whasee. The order was made on Sept. 5, 1894, but the reindeer were not delivered until Feb. 2, 1895, and while the order called for 100 deer he was allowed 121 which made nearly 25 each for the five men. The deer were delivered at Sinuk (Sinrok), and Charley was left with them as a test of the capacity of the Eskimo to be trusted with the deer. They were allowed but three years before returning the original number of deer to the Government, which he did in October 1897.

Charley had served two years as an apprentice, it appears, before he was loaned the deer, so he was considered competent to handle the herd, and it was done as an experiment to prove the case. This is one of the first examples of the pay they received. He had 160 deer himself after he paid his loan. He loaned them to the Government for the Relief expedition to Barrow.

Tautuk, See-keglook, and Weeksock, were three of the apprentices who had served their apprenticeship of five years, 75 reindeer were given to them. That was only five reindeer a year for their apprentice work, but they had their food and clothing additional.

FOOD RATION GIVEN APPRENTICES

Each week the apprentice and his wife had allowed as a ration:

Flour, 6 pounds; Navy bread, 40 pieces; Tea, $\frac{1}{2}$ pkg.; Molasses, $\frac{1}{2}$ qt.; Beans, 3 lbs.; Rice, 2 lbs.; Soap, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; Cornmeal, 2 lbs.; Matches, 2 boxes; Meat or pork, 4 lbs; All the seal oil they wished, and all the fish they wished.

Beans were given one week, rice the next. Tobacco paid for by extra work.

They served on watches, Day watch, and night watch, 12 hours each.

Warm clothing provided, mostly deerskin.

(Report Reindeer Service, 1905, page 72-73).

NAMES OF SOME OF THE FIRST APPRENTICES AND WHERE THEY ARE

Tautuk became owner of a nice herd of deer, he went to Barrow with the Relief Expedition of 1898, he had his herd at or near Nome for several years. He went East with reindeer twice to exhibit them in the cities. He died about ten years ago.

Elektoonna is a reindeer man at Kivalina.

Tatpan is a reindeer man at Shaktolik.

Antisarlook, "Reindeer Charlie" died in pestilence of 1900 and his wife, "Reindeer" Mary, still owns a remnant of the herd, many of them having been taken from her. She has raised many Eskimo orphans from the proceeds of this herd. She is now at Unalakleet.

Ahlook is a leading reindeer man of Wainwright.

Showdlook is a reindeer man of Wainwright.

Otpella is a herd owner at Kivalina.

Panigeo is a reindeer owner at Barrow.

Okwitkoon is a reindeer man of Shaktolik.

Sokweena is one of the two largest owners in the Buckland herd.

Will some of the young men build up a herd and have them as long as these men have? The way to do it is to get a few, as many as you know how to take care of, and then do it. That is the only way. If you hire herders, they will quit and go just when maybe a pack of wolves come along

and you will have "No more deer than a rabbit." Do not expect the Government to give you anything. That only spoils you. You will lose or spend that, and then ask for more, that is not the way. These reindeer men above named did not do that way.

LOMEN STILL SELLING REINDEER

All the non-native owned reindeer in Alaska were supposed to have been sold under the management of Mr. Burdick and his report, dated June 1st, 1940, was transmitted to the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations House of Representatives by Secretary Ickes on June 24th, 1940. By this report all reindeer of non-native owners was supposed to be purchased.

In the Eugene Guard, of October 24th, 1940, appears an item which states that 25 two year old reindeer were being shipped east from Alaska and that "Carl Lomen, member of the owning firm," said the moss would not last long etc.

The question arises, if all the non-native reindeer were sold to the United States, whose reindeer is Mr. Lomen selling? Is he still owning reindeer? Where are they kept. Who rounded them up? from whose range? As the Government has neglected for thirteen years, only six leases having been issued, and those so scattered that they are ineffective, surrounded by unleased land on which native title is not extinguished, can Mr. Lomen go out and round up native lands and ranges? The whole matter appears unusual.

The understanding of the law is that the reindeer business is to be exclusively native as was intended when the reindeer industry was founded. Is this another feature of the aggression of the past TWENTY SIX YEARS? Is it another "PROPOSED PLAN" like was attempted to be put over in 1931 at the Reindeer Committee for the handling of all native products to be placed in the hands of Mr. Lomen's Company? In this item Mr. Lomen is plainly designated as "member of the owning firm." Is his company still an owner, or is he selling native owned reindeer, or Government owned reindeer?

GIVE ALASKA INDIANS AND ESKIMOS CREDIT

In THE INDIAN AT WORK of November, 1940, is an item about the Indians of Metlakatla, Alaska, the Council of the Annette Island Reserve, in a meeting May 27, 1940, donating \$100 to the Red Cross, "Relief of victims in the present World War."

This is not the only donation of the kind. It would be only justice to mention that during the FIRST WORLD WAR that White Mountain Eskimos donated \$100, that they had saved toward building a sawmill for their village, to the Red Cross. There might

be mention of the hundreds of pounds of down and feathers donated by BARROW to make comfort pillows for the soldiers of the last WORLD WAR.

Then another act worth mention is that Kivalina Eskimo reindeer men gave 175 carcasses of reindeer meat to the relief of the unemployed of southeastern Alaska in 1932.

If a little trouble was taken there would be more of these instances of which mention could be made.

The Eskimos of the St. Lawrence Island are the most prosperous native community in Northwest Alaska. This is owing to their removal from the vices of the Provinces, Caesar might have said, as he did of the Helvitiens.

They own their reindeer herd, and it still exists. They have two stores on the island, in each the wares and manufactures of the natives are bought, also their reindeer meat whenever they have a surplus; the fox fur that the Eskimos take. These mercantile establishments do a business of eight or nine thousand dollars a year. They buy the goods in Seattle, and sell to their people. They are not in debt, and buy for cash.

They have proved that they can do business for themselves, where the white man does not butt into their work. They are free from the gin mills and pool tables, and I never saw a card game on the island.

There are other native stores in Eskimo villages. They have had varied success, some have been financially ruined by the meddling of traders and others. Some have recovered from this and are doing fairly well again. But St. Lawrence villages, Gamble and Savoonga have had the most uniform progress. It is largely due to the lack of "outside interference."

Every native village in Alaska could be successful in a small store in their town if they are not interested with by some white man coming in and by smooth tricks and other methods undermining them.

What is the matter with every Eskimo village starting a NEW YEAR right away and looking after their reindeer, and also dealing with their own store, and letting booze joints alone?

THE ESKIMO

C. L. ANDREWS, Editor and Publisher

Issued quarterly at 1734 Villard St., Eugene, Oregon.

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ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 8

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The Eskimo is issued as a continuation of the work of Walter C. Shields, laid down when he died at his post, in Nome, Alaska, in 1918, in the little magazine which he was instrumental in publishing and in which he was the prime mover.

In the first issue, September 1916, Mr. Shields, the Superintendent in the Northwestern District of Alaska, said as follows:

"As representatives of the Government we claim the right of our service to exist because we are developing the resources of Northern Alaska just as much as any man with pick and pan. We are making a country productive just as much as any reclamation project that ever was managed by the Government. . . . We are making the Eskimos more fit to live as a productive part of our population There are miles on miles of the country that, as far as we can see, will never be worth a cent except as it is made productive through the Eskimos. . . ."

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR ESKIMOS AND OF OUR SERVICE

In the issue of September 17, 1917, he says; "Remember, Eskimo Reindeer men, that the Reindeer Business was meant for you from the start. . . ."

You will, if you really love your children, and if you are real Eskimos who love their people, remember that, "It now rests with you as to whether you will leave all these deer for your children."

"You will surely make yourselves a place in the work of the world if the Eskimo REINDEER MEN GET TOGETHER."

Walter Shields was trying to hold a high ideal of work before the Eskimo people. His death through the Spanish Influenza in 1918 put an end to his efforts.

The Reindeer Industry has slipped backward since his work ceased and has fallen into a sad condition. This is mainly through unscrupulous commercialism that has undermined it. It was neglected by the Department of the Government that had oversight if it. Appeals were made by Shields that

were prevented being acted upon. The counsel of men antagonistic to the native was taken by the Government. The result has been called "CHAOS" by those who were the cause.

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

It is to be hoped that the desire to make an unfair profit off the native people of the United States, through efforts of certain societies and other influences, is partly being checked, and the purchase of certain reindeer of non-native owners may remove a part of the incubus from the back of the Eskimo.

MAINLY UP TO THE ESKIMO

A law was forced through Congress taking away the property rights of the Eskimo in handling his reindeer, which has a semblance of being done because the president of a corporation wished it done. The Bill was first presented by the Delegate from Alaska, and who was elected for the purpose of stating what the people who elect him wish to have passed. Certain amendments were insisted upon by an executive Department Head, which annulled many of the favorable features of that law. That law should be repealed. It is a rank injustice, and would seem unconstitutional. It deprived the native of the right to manage his property which he had held and managed for forty years. His management was spoiled by the efforts of employes and officers of the white men who wished to get the property of the Eskimo. These agents and officers had Senators and Members of Congress who acted in their interest. These representatives of corporations had the means to infest the Halls of Congress session after session for more than twenty years. A representative of the Corporation stays in the east, close to the Department. The Corporation has the money, secured by sale of their reindeer to the Government. These things must be remembered in the future.

Many of you old time reindeer men, know more about right handling of your reindeer than any white man. You should make your protests, and loudly, when things are done that you know are wrong. If you do not

stand for your rights, you will get nowhere. It looks shameful to deprive a man of his rights in his property, when his management had been spoiled by corporations that were undermining him all the time. Then you or some of the young men must do this reindeer work and do it right.

Young reindeer men who have the work of caring for the reindeer procured by hard work by their fathers, you are the ones to wake up and do business. Do not depend on herding a month, then going to the village and having a week there while the reindeer have no protection. That is not the way to do. I shall tell of what happened to herds up in Alaska when the herders left their deer unprotected.

REINDEER HERD LOST

The Broad Pass, or Cantwell herd, of the Government has been lost. The Kotzebue-Lomen herd was lost years ago. The Williams herd at Kokrines was lost several years ago. The Barter Island Eskimo herd, disappeared, Barrow drove another herd to the Barter Island, and the new herd was lost.

Another native owned herd, was scattered by wolves and lack of care. They had no deer left. In another herd they found about 1200 head of this deer and brought them home. They hired boys to take care of them. A man who owns many of the deer and earned them thirty years ago, writes me.

"He (the herder) lost the herd in first part of August, and no more herd up to date."

That herder should be ashamed. He was paid to take care of those deer, and did not do it. Probably the wolves killed or drove them away.

Another Eskimo writes me about the herd at his place. "The wolves getting back on the coast line again, and one of our herds is gone. The wolves come in bands of fifteen and twenty, and sometimes one or two only. The boys, our herders, were not there when the wolves came. . . . Well when the boys got up inland the deer could not be found except a little."

All the herd except those that were able to escape from the wolves is gone. The ones that escaped are scattered for miles around.

That is not the way to take care of deer. The wolf is on the job all the time.

I'm not telling what herds these were, for I think the men are ashamed and sorry, and I'll not tell on them, but I have the letters.

Taking care of what you have, or not taking care of it, is just the difference between success and failure—between having something and not having it.

EXPORTS OF REINDEER FROM ALASKA

It will likely be of value to the natives to know how many reindeer have been ship-

ped from Alaska, and an approximate knowledge of the value of the shipment.

The record of shipments as filed with the Customs Office, and as gathered from other sources is given below;

Shipped by native owners:

1911 125 carcasses wt. 18,750 lbs. average wt. 150 lbs.

1913 25 carcasses wt. (?), distributed to Railways, etc., Advt.

1917	33,295 lbs. valued	\$ 6,531
1918	99,174 lbs. valued	17,845
1919	36,780 lbs. valued	8,000

Shippers unknown, probably by white dealers, partly bought from native owners.

1920	256,449 lbs. valued	\$ 61,865
1921	104,347 lbs. valued	18,534
1922	123,110 lbs. valued	24,600
1923	195,829 lbs. valued	37,596
1924	286,854 lbs. valued	53,124
1925	681,102 lbs. valued	111,452
1926	967,751 lbs. valued	127,768
1927	819,931 lbs. valued	63,506
1928	1,318,453 lbs. valued	141,195
1929	1,384,075 lbs. valued	141,195
1930	1,566,485 lbs. valued	157,918
1931	1,015,645 lbs. valued	100,298
1932	246,927 lbs. valued	24,693
1933	433,885 lbs. valued	42,872
1934	802,895 lbs. valued	71,760
1935	394,939 lbs. valued	34,677
1936	644,125 lbs. valued	40,271
1937	120,300 lbs. valued	12,030
1938	None reported by Customs	
1939	None reported by Customs	

In 1938 there were 413 carcasses shipped by the native owners, wt. 54,420 lbs. and in 1939 there was a shipment of 867 carcasses, weight 98,922 lbs., also by natives, that were not recorded with the customs.

From 1930 to 1937 the value per pound was generally 10c a pound which was a fictitious valuation on much of the meat. It is known that 5200 carcasses shipped by native companies thru a corporation and these were sold at about 6c per pound in Seattle. Either the natives were robbed, or the meat was invoiced to the Customs at a fictitious valuation.

Until 1923 the Bureau of Education was compelled to ship all of its supplies for schools and reindeer by whaling ships or by chartered schooners, and had no cold storage in ships for reindeer meat shipments north of Teller. Freights on reindeer meat was \$42 per ton. In 1923 the "Boxer" was secured through the efforts of W. T. Lopp, chief of the division. Her capacity was 500 reindeer.

From 1923 to 1929 the shipments by the "BOXER" totaled; 2777 carcasses Weight 349,703 lbs. Av. wt. to carcass 141 lbs. Total sales \$41,040 average value per pound in Seattle 11.7 cents.

Further information about shipments and sales will be given in the next issue of the **ESKIMO**.

This information is published to give the Eskimos and the people interested in the welfare of the Eskimo knowledge of the industry.

It is hoped that from this time forward a better record in the interest of the Eskimo and other natives may be made.

GOOD RESULTS OF THE PURCHASE OF NON-NATIVE DEER

An agreement was forced on the natives of Wales in 1931, by which the Wales Company had to let some eight hundred Lomen Reindeer Company reindeer stay on Wales range, in the Wales Company herd, and Wales had to give the Lomen Corporation full count of fawns, and mavericks while Wales carried the expense. It was making Wales keep the Lomen Corp., Deer for nothing. The Lomen Corporation in addition to that owed to the Wales people 928 reindeer, due in March 1931. That made the fawns of 1931 belong to Wales on what was owed, but the Lomen Corp., fooled the Wales people in the agreement, and the Wales people not only lost the 928 reindeer, and their fawns, and the share of mavericks in the Wales range that under the usual rule belonged to Wales, but Wales pastured and kept 798 Lomen deer which were breeding in their herd.

These reindeer remained on Wales range until the Government bought the white-owned deer. That canceled the contract. So Wales is free at last, after a captivity of a kind for nearly ten years.

In addition to this by the mixture of herds, Wales contracted a debt to the Lomen Corporation of 1610 reindeer on the "Over and Short" account that is manipulated each year to the befuddling of the native. That means the agreement just cost Wales the 928 deer the Corporation owed her, and the 1610 "Over and Short" deer in addition, a clean loss of 2538 reindeer. Why did not the Corporation pay Wales for the 928 deer she owed March 1931 and take her own deer home and keep them there? That is what was asked of the Government to make each man do in 1929, eleven years ago—but was not done. Now it is paid by Uncle Sam in the big appropriation and is wiped off the account of "O & S." That is one thing the native profited by the big piece of pork.

REINDEER IN ALASKA IN 1940

The Alaska Weekly states that Mr. Burdick estimates there are roughly, 250,000 reindeer in Alaska in 1940. It was expressed in the October 1940 number of the **Eskimo**, that it was regretted that the report of the reindeer that were counted in the roundup made by Mr. Burdick in the herds handled,

was not reported. This would have made a record that could be used in considering the progress of the reindeer from that time forward.

October 16th, 1940 this information was requested of the Reindeer Service, but has not yet been received.

The "Eskimo" will in this issue give the summary of the 1938 count of Mr. Rachford and his assistants. In comparison to this will be given a summary of the counts of 1932 in same areas. This will give a foundation for future comparison.

The Rachford report of 1938, was as follows:

Committee Report	
Herds	1938
Buckland	2,195
Egavik	7,729
Golovin	11,990
Teller	4,426
Total	26,340

Hearings, Int. Dep pp. Bill, 1940, page 617.

This count is evidently on the herds alone, not the Unit. The Golovin herd in 1938, counted 11,990 and of these there were 9101 in the Lomen mark which leaves 2889 native owned.

An estimate prepared April 1st, 1938, in Teller unit gives 37,961 deer. An actual roundup held March 1939 gives 4797. The Governor's report for the Territory for 1939 says "Approximately 600,000 reindeer are distributed along the Alaska coast line from Atka north to Point Barrow and eastward to Demarcation Point.

An actual count of Golovin herd in 1932 shows 12315 head, 2627 native, 9688 other.

The count of 1938 in Golovin herd shows 11,990, native owned 2889, other 9101.

The count of March 1940 in Golovin herd shows 1682 native owned and 3083 Lomen, a total of 4765.

The report of Mr. Rachford in the Approp. Hgs. 1940 states that in 1932 Kivalina Reindeer herd corralled 42,000 deer; in 1934, 38,000, 15,000 in 1936, only 12,000 in 1937. In 1935 the Selawik corral count was 12,778, whereas in 1937 only 2,722 deer were corralled. At the Kivalina count the fawn increase was 10 per cent; at Koyuk only 7.3 per cent, at Egavik one half per cent. (Hearings 1940, p. 581.)

The herds have been let go, "open herding" practiced, mixing of herds done, herds made too large for management and control, the herds have been lost from control, and finally vast packs of wolves have ravaged the unprotected herds.

Yet the estimates show in the Governor's reports as follows: 1933, "more than 500,000 animals" (p. 29); 1935 report, p. 33, 550,000. In 1936 the "number of reindeer on ranges, 594,000; number handled 204,759; Report for 1937, states "estimated reindeer on ranges

470,850, number of reindeer handled 176,613; Report for 1938, "estimated 544,000," p. 46; 1939, "Approximately 600,000 reindeer." p. 51. In 1940 the non-native held deer were estimated at 500,615. (See p. 561 Hgs. 1940) Actual number, Burdick's report, 82,442.

ESTIMATES VERY UNRELIABLE

By the above it will be seen that estimates on the number of reindeer are very unreliable. This shows that it would be very valuable to know what the count of 1940 was, in the herds that were handled, and in this way have a solid foundation for working in the re-building of the reindeer industry.

The industry was conducted on the lines followed in the countries that had carried on the industry for years beyond record, until 1914, when outside interference came, in the form of corporate organization designed to break into the work, demoralize the management and finally to control the whole.

The field force tried to combat the new, and alleged "SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT" that prescribed "OPEN HERDING," "MIXING HERDS" and percentage marking, which in mixed herds utterly corrupted the ownership interests and opened the way for abuses, similar to that of the West, in the days of the "BANDITTI OF THE PLAINS" in the Seventies and Eighties of last century.

Up to 1918 reports were printed by the Department of the Interior which show the progress of the industry and its condition. By 1930 the industry started in a tail-spin. No reports were published except a part of a page in the report of the Governor. In 1932 the condition was denominated "CHAOS" by a secret convention at Teller. It urged UNIT combinations as a remedy and alleged that the reindeer were forcing it whether the owners wanted it or not. The bald-faced fact is, that when animals are smarter than the owners, that is an end of successful stock raising.

REINDEER COUNT OF 1932—BY HERDS

Buckland Unit Herd	Native Owned	White Owned	Total	Grand Total
Buckland	6363	8676	15039	.....
Deering	17244	641	17885	.....
Kotzebue-Lomen	96	1887	1983	.....
Nugliniktuk	2519	14	2533	.....
Selawik	8833	24	8857	.....
Total	35055	11242	46297	46297
Egavik Unit Herd				
Rgavik	2266	8749	11015	.....
Koyuk	6181	840	7021	.....
Shaktolik	12039	3408	15447	.....
Total	20486	12997	33483	33483
Golovin Unit				
Golovin	2627	9688	12315	.....
Council	4041	1	4042	.....
Elim	1715	75	1780	.....
Total	8383	9764	18107	18107
Teller Unit				
Teller	3148	1431	4579	.....
Wales	10361	1013	11374	.....
Shishmaref	3327	29	3356	.....
Inland	599	48	647	.....
Igloo	3147	16	3163	.....
Allokeok	1549	17	1566	.....
Total	22128	2334	24685	24685
Grand Total of four Units				122572
In addition to this the report listed:				
Nome Herd	1571	.....	1571	.....
Douglas Herd	1052	2	1054	.....
Total	2523	2	2625	2625
Grand total of entire count of 1932				125197

This count was made by the natives themselves. Special Agents Trowbridge and Gillmann were present at some of the counts. It is published here, and if the result of the 1940 count can be procured it will be published in the next issue of the "ESKIMO." This will make a record that those interested will be able to consult, and judge of the progress hereafter, made.

HOW TO PUT THE INDUSTRY ON ITS FEET

Get the reindeer of every village on its own grounds. Get the deer counted, so the natives will know what they have. Then village people will have a personal interest in the reindeer. It is better that every owner have his deer marked to him. Then he will take a personal pride of ownership. Now they have none of this. The average man only looks to how much he can get out of the herd, and how little he will pay. He does not care how many deer the wolves get out of the company herd.

Then the first thing is to have the deer that owners need for their own use. No use to try to make big sales when half the breeding females in the herd are killed when they are heavy with fawn. That is not good stock business. There are few herds can stand for that practice. Second grade meat does not pay to ship so far and at such great expense.

Then the herds must be protected, night and day till the wolf pest is subdued. That is absolutely necessary.

Always keep some of the best males for bulls. I have a letter from a native saying, "We had about three hundred barren females year—reason, not enough bulls."

Cooperate on what sales are made in the States, but do the stock farming independently. "COOPERATE" was a stock expression with the first corporation that broke into the native industry, and it just about "BUSTED" the native.

First. Execute the lease law of 1927, so that a man may know where he has a right to graze his reindeer. Then he will know when his rights are encroached upon. This has not been known for the fifty years of reindeer work in America.

The situation has been thus far, that one man could drive deer from what was supposed to be a neighboring range, any deer he found there, then claim that the deer from the range from which the herd was driven, were strays. As strays, they were held and given just was considered convenient to assign them. The result was deer so driven down were lost to the other owner.

VILLAGE NOTES ARCTIC ALASKA

Unalakleet: The 1939 census gives 329 people in the village. In 1920 there were but 285 inhabitants. The place is one of the most pleasant in northwestern Alaska, gardens grow finely, salmon enough for village use, run in the river, the netsek and oogook seal are caught in the bay. Last year they sold \$1500 in garden vegetables. They have a herd of deer but it has been sadly diminished in past ten years and needs being herded and cared for. Reindeer do not just grow of their own accord.

WAINWRIGHT — NEARLY AT THE TOP OF ALASKA

Wainwright, in 1920 had but 99 people. The census of 1939 gives them 341. And they talk of the Eskimos being a perishing race. This does not look like it. But the farther north the Eskimo lives, the better he is.

The Wainwright Eskimo is a hunter man. 1939-40 the catch of the village was 7 walrus; 10 wolves and 16 cubs; 275 fox.

The people own 21 big oomiaks, and 12 small; they have 13 kyaks and four good power boats. And they counted 15000 reindeer the last roundup.

WOLVES! WOLVES!

The wolves are as bad as ever, they work overtime. Letters from the Kuskokwim to Point Barrow indicate that they are just as plentiful as they ever have been.

Eskimos, get in and kill wolves. Herd your deer and watch your reindeer at the same time, that is the only way to do. Every one who has anything, must fight the other things that try to get it.

REINDEER MANAGEMENT PRACTICED

The report of the Governor for 1933 states, "The conditions that exist today are almost identical to those that existed in the WEST in the days prior to the coming of fences. No continuous herding is practiced. The reindeer are free to roam as they choose, and in recent times seem to travel to an unprecedented extent. Mountains and rivers do not constitute natural boundaries."

This is correct as far as it goes. But the whole truth is not by any means stated in this. The fencing in the open ranges was forced by the system of open herding practiced. It first caused the cattle wars and the stockman's wars of the Seventies and Eighties. It caused the condition that resulted in the attempt to root out the "NESTERS" by armed gunmen hired by the big companies. It caused the war in the Big Hole Country in Wyoming.

Sheep were not handled by "open herding." They could not be. Reindeer have never

been successfully handled by "OPEN HERDING." They have been handled through thousands of years in all the northern countries of the OLD WORLD. The Lapps, the Samoyeds, the Koriaks, the Tunguses, the Chookchees and others. They have always been herded.

When the reindeer were brought from Siberia they were handled in Alaska by same methods as practiced in the Old World. The work was successful so long as this was done. It was so successful that white men became jealous of the success of the native. They thought they could take the reindeer away from the Eskimos as Hitler has taken the countries of Europe, only cannon and tanks were not used. They found that to herd the animals cost so much they lost money on the business. Time after time they reincorporated, raised more money, and lost it. To increase their capital they took native reindeer to try to reduce expense they ceased herding and turned their herds loose to forage for themselves and wander where they pleased.

RESULTS OF THIS PROCEDURE

UNIT MANAGEMENT, was urged as a remedy in which some seven native herds would be merged, with one corporation owned herd. It was expected to use the native owned reindeer as security for a loan that the corporation was asking of the Government of \$750,000.

The OPEN HERDING, as urged by the white owned corporations and by the Bio-

logical Survey of the United States, has continued till the result is that the industry is in imminent danger of destruction on the mainland where the great herds have been formed. It appears there is danger that the reindeer will only exist on the detached islands where wolves cannot attack them, and where the destruction of range will be limited by starvation.

Then, if this occurs, the native on the mainland will be back where he began, in a condition of semi-starvation.

The reindeer industry can only support the native population, with a small surplus for sale where it may be disposed of without far and expensive transportation. Large areas have already been over grazed, and it will require from ten to thirty years to be restored. This will be the subject of farther discussion in another number.

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ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

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A brief review of the history of the reindeer work in Alaska may be of interest, and of value in some way in future. The record of the past is a guide to the future.

The reindeer has been an animal under domestication in the northern part of the Old World as long as history runs.

The caribou of North America is the American branch of the reindeer family. Both in the Old World and in the New, the reindeer family inhabit the north, and flourish where the lichen known as the reindeer moss grows.

The reindeer moss grows by from a quarter of an inch to one half inch a year. For eight months of the year in a large part of the area that is adapted to the reindeer industry there is no other food that the reindeer requires. He has to dig through the snow to get it, like a horse on the western ranges pawed for the grass.

The reindeer is only valuable as a means of livelihood for the natives. The nature of the range, the cost of transport to market and its inability to compete with beef, pork and mutton in the regions where those animals prosper, prevents it becoming a considerable factor in the food supply of other countries than in the North.

The introduction of the reindeer was bitterly opposed. The idea was ridiculed. It was stated that it would be impossible to succeed. Dr. Jackson was abused for his idea, and personally ridiculed. He was called Shell-game Jackson for promoting it. It was attempted to get an indictment against him by the grand jury at Juneau on the ground of wasting the Government money. His first appropriation was \$15,000 for the year for handling and distributing the deer, now the cost is \$35,000 annually.

THE REINDEER CRISIS IN ALASKA

The high tide of the reindeer industry in Alaska was reached about 1929. The inception of the industry was in 1891, when the first considerable importation of reindeer from Siberia was landed at Teller, on Port Clarence, Alaska. (2nd Report R. D. Serv. 1892).

The reindeer herds increased at the rate of 22% per annum, net increase, until 1917 (Annual Report, Bur. of Ed. 1917, p. 13.) From 1918 forward, no reports of the rein-

deer work were published by the Government Department having charge of the industry. A few years before that time the work was intruded upon and attacked by outside interference which believed from the success of the natives in the work, that it was a promising field for exploitation.

It was introduced as an education for the native in stockraising similar to that pursued by the Laps of the Scandinavian Peninsula. Up to about 1921 the practice of the Laps of Norway and Sweden in their reindeer husbandry was followed, and the animals were kept domesticated by the herders following the herds at all seasons of the year. By this they were kept under control, straying was prevented, and the menace of wild animals was well controlled. Wolves, bear, and lynx have existed in the country at all times, but were kept under control by the system of herders protecting the animals.

The severity of the climate, and the scarcity of the winter forage requires many acres, from 30 to 60 acres to the head, for range on which to keep the herds. This combined with the distance of shipping the meat to market prevents it becoming an industry that will provide a profit on a large scale where the shipment has to be made to the States.

The discovery of gold with its attendant influx of prospectors and miners, furnished a home market that was remunerative for several years. The wages paid in the mines were so high that herders could not be had in the vicinity of the mines at a rate of pay that could be paid by the herds as the demand for the meat locally decreased as the mines worked out. The result was that companies of non-natives who had acquired large herds advocated open herding. This meant letting the reindeer scatter at will, and they were handled only about twice a year, in summer for counting and marking, and in fall or winter for butchering for the market. This manner of handling was supported by the Biological Survey which came to the region in 1921, with an appropriation of about \$46,000 for a study of the animal and its diseases. (See *Bulletin 1089, Biological Survey Department of Ag. Wn. D.C., page 30.*) The survey received about \$250,000 between 1920 and 1932 for these studies and to

promote the scientific management by open herding.

With the example of the non-native owners abolishing the herding of the animals, and the saving of not having to pay the herders, the natives began to relax their vigilance, gradually. This gave rise to the opportunity for straying, and the attendant mixing of the herds, especially with the non-native occupied ranges on the Seward Peninsula, like military salients, where the first native herds had been located. The Government failed to provide for the allotment of areas for the natives and others to occupy, until 1927, when a law was passed that leases should be issued to applicants. The law has been so poorly executed that there have been but six leases granted in an area where there were at one time 77 herds. The result that the practice of "mavericking" was developed, and to the extent that hundreds of deer were taken at a time.

The earlier domestication of the reindeer kept the animals manageable for about ten years. Some of the native herds were herded until 1927 or 1928. Some were partially herded for another year or two.

PETITIONS IN INTEREST OF NATIVE OWNERS

In 1929, a petition was filed in the interest of the Eskimo owners of reindeer, asking that;

The native owned deer numbering about ten thousand animals belonging to native owners, called "co-owner" be returned to the owners.

That lands be leased to the native owners as provided by the law of 1927.

That an accounting be made by the persons or companies that had held native deer as "Co-owners" and otherwise, stray etc., for the time they were held, the costs charged, in detail, the number of deer in every mark that were butchered during the time.

That when the leases were assigned that every owner must keep his deer on his own land according to the Compiled laws of Alaska of 1913.

The petition defined the situation, and showed the crisis that was impending under the conditions that prevailed.

The petition was ignored, and the next two or three years were devoted to trying to make the reindeer business pay for the corporations and others who had broken into what was intended to be a livelihood for the natives.

NATIVE PETITION INTEREST IGNORED

Had this request been heeded and carried out it would have saved the Government nearly or quite a million dollars. The native would not have been humiliated and demoralized and thousands of reindeer would have been saved.

Instead of adopting the suggestions, several years were devoted to trying to save the investment of the intruding speculators.

By 1929 the ranges began to fail from overgrazing. The deer were wild and difficult to handle. The animals were scattered over ranges of from fifty to 75 miles square, and with no protection from the predatory animals. At the round-ups was the only time the reindeer were protected. They were open to attack at any other time or place. On one round-up one Eskimo herder, Tautuk, killed four bear.

By 1930 the corporations that had broken into the business against the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department, were losing money rapidly. They endeavored to recoup themselves by sale of stock in the reindeer herds and the appliances, to the DEAR PUBLIC of the United States. They claimed unbelievable numbers, and valued them at fabulous prices.

One company rounded up in 1929, and found only 32,094 deer in their mark. During the next winter the corporation butchered 16,000 deer. They sold 3,400 in Canada. The next summer they tried to sell 250,000 reindeer to the dear people on a stock sale. Their valuations in their incorporation were for females, \$25; for bulls \$10, and for fawns and steers, \$5.

Then they tried to take the native reindeer at \$3 per head, delivered at their corrals.

This corporation was a subsidiary of a holding company. The total valuation at which it was incorporated was \$4,400,000.

The holding company listed the value of its property in the four subcorporations at only \$2,550,255.23. Their unsecured debt was \$1,599,379.98. This was on a statement to the Territory of Alaska.

The speculation on sale of stock in the company failed, from the depression of 1932 and other causes.

REINDEER THREE DOLLARS PER HEAD

During the time stock shares were being sold on reindeer valued at from \$5, for steers to \$25 for adult females, one corporation was taking reindeer from natives at from \$2 to \$3 per head delivered at their slaughterhouses, and required the deer to be of a dressed weight of 125 lbs. each.

The native companies would not sell at that, the keeping the deer had been more than that to produce a grown animal. Some of the company stock holders went to the herds, took out deer, sold them and pocketed the money. The company owed for the raising the deer, the owners of stock cut out and sold company deer. This is what came of community management. And this course is said by the natives to have been encouraged and approved by some of the

Government officials. The natives were discouraged and disgusted. They have not yet recovered. The final result is that the Government has purchased non-native held deer and is trying to rebuild the industry.

CHANGES IN THE MANAGEMENT

The reindeer service is urging that the reindeer be herded. This is a necessity. It should have been done all through the years. Had it been done this catastrophe would have been avoided.

The best way to secure that object, is to separate and give each man his reindeer, and show him that if he does not take care of them as they should be handled, he will lose them. Convince them that if they do not do that, they will get no more reindeer, unless they buy them.

The worst feature thus far is, that instead of separating the ownership as it belongs, and handling the small herds, each herd by its owners who have an interest in the management, there is one unit in which eight herds are combined into one big herd of 28,513 reindeer, called the Unit herd of Bering, or Teller Unit. These deer are rounded up and marked in a manner that still further mixes the ownership, and the size of the herd is increased about eight fold.

It is hoped that the record of the past twenty years, and the experience of the Old World for thousands of years may cause a change in this policy.

CARE OF GOVERNMENT BOUGHT REINDEER

The Government has bought 82,538 reindeer of non-native owners. The deer do not appear to have been marked. Is it expected that the Eskimos will round up, mark and care for these reindeer of the Government, and will they continue to graze on the already over grazed lands?

That is another problem for the Reindeer Service to solve. Had they been marked and separated according to owners, and leases been given to show on what lands these deer may be lawfully pastured it would have gone far toward solving the question. If it cost the Government \$125,000 to ascertain how many deer were to be bought, how much will it cost the natives to roundup these deer again and mark them to the owners?

THE REAL VALUE OF THE INDUSTRY

The actual value of the industry is to enable the people who live in that distant and poorly vegetated land to have a means of securing a livelihood since the natural resources in whale, walrus, seal, and wild birds that formerly constituted their support were so reduced and were so subject to destruction from white men who exploit them, that the natives were perishing.

The great amount of land required to support a reindeer, owing to the slow growth of the reindeer moss on which it feeds for eight months in the extreme north, the wide areas over which it ranges averaging about 30 to 60 acres per head, and the high costs of shipping to the market, leaves little for the producer.

This is shown by the declaration of Mr. Baldwin, the financial backer of the Lomen Reindeer Companies, in his testimony before the Kendrick Committee of 1931. (p. 329, Hearing Ken. Com.) He said, "We have never realized \$3 a head on the deer that we purchased."

This corporation appear to have lost money on the business every year that they bred reindeer.

LAW ON ESTRAY REINDEER

The Compiled Laws of Alaska, of 1913, provides the practice in relation estrays. It was taken from the Laws of Oregon and for years had been tried out and proved by that state, which was a stock country. If it has been changed the ESKIMO has not been able to find it. If it has been changed it was probably done by some interested white man or corporation; the Eskimos did not do it.

It provides the Commissioner is to keep a record of estrays. When animals stray onto any one's premises, that man shall post notices of his having the estray, and the owner shall come, claim the animal, pay the cost of keeping, and take it back to the herd of the owner.

This is a just law, and should have been observed, but it has not. It has been neglected for years. Up to about 1918 or 1920, there was practically no straying of reindeer, and those deer that did stray were followed and recovered at once. The stray nuisance was not cultivated until the fallacy of big herds and open herding was introduced. (Compiled Laws Alaska, Chapter 26, Secs. 676 et seq.)

THE REMEDY NECESSARY

Holding corrals should be at the chute of every corral. Strays should be turned into one of these corrals, as they go through the chute, and the owner should be notified to come and get his property and pay the costs of keeping and handling.

Years ago this should have been done, and when the Government paid ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND dollars to count deer, would have been a good time to attend to this. It must be done, and it is better that each town herd be put on its own range. The Government has neglected to assign the ranges and that has been one of the great causes of the present confusion and ruin of the industry.

Up to the present time the tendency has been to create larger herds. This is against all reindeer experience both in Europe, Asia

and Alaska. Not over a thousand is the best size of herd. Then the absence of a few deer is soon noted, and a search of a day or two generally finds the stray before it gets off its range.

DRILLING AN ARMY BY REGIMENTS

Drilling an army is never done by regiments or brigades. It is done by squads under a drill sergeant.

It is just as foolish to try to herd and handle a big herd of wild reindeer as it would be so start out with a mob to go into battle.

The reindeer service in Alaska during the past ten years has come to realize that actual herding is necessary. But they have not yet begun to get their deer into the proper ownership so that there will be a personal interest in the deer by each owner. It is pretty sure that individual ownership is better than company ownership. Company ownership has been tried for nearly twenty years and is one cause of the "CHAOS," declared in 1932.

Twenty-five years ago every Eskimo owner knew his deer, individually. They had a pride in them. That has been destroyed by the OPEN HERDING AND BIG HERDS, straying and mixing.

RESULTS OF COMBINING HERDS

Until the Kivalina herd was combined with other herds and made big, it was well cared for and successful. There were five individual herds, Electoona's, Seveck's, Oonalik's, Otpelle's, and Charlie Sakona's. None except Oonalik's were over 1000 head. In fawning season a man was with the herd day and night, watching that nothing killed the fawns. These herds combined, and there were other herds, Kotzebue, Putamea's, and others added, till they had 42,000 deer. Then the losses began. In the Rachford report the statement is that only 12,000 remained in 1937. (Int. Dep. App. Bill 1940, p. 618.)

NOME HERD (Nome-Douglas)

The Nome herd in 1926 counted 2615 reindeer. The Douglas herd counted 2713 reindeer. The two herds were later combined. The total count of the combined herd in 1934 was 1880.

IGLOO INLAND HERD

Igloo herd was established in 1907 with 491 reindeer, in 1912 Igloo No. 2 was formed,

in 1914, Igloo No. 3 was cut out; 1915, Igloo No. 4 was divided; in 1916 No. 5 was made from the other herds. In that year the five herds totaled 3960 reindeer. By 1923 these five were combined in two herds, Igloo Reindeer Assoc. and Inland Reindeer Assn. No. 2. Igloo R. R. Assoc. had 7943 reindeer
Inland R. D. Assoc. had 3141 reindeer

Total 11084 reindeer

The year 1928, 1196 reindeer of these two companies were held by the Lomen Corporation, in their Teller herd as estrays. This would make the ownership of these two companies 12280.

The 1932 count, shows as follows:

Inland Reindeer Assoc., ... 596 deer
Igloo Reindeer Assoc. 3145 deer

Total 3741 deer

In Teller-Lomen herd as strays 522 deer

Grand total 4263 deer

The 1940 count shows:

Inland Assoc. 1732 deer
Igloo Assoc. 610 deer

Total 2342 deer

CAPE REINDEER COMPANY (Wales)

The Government loaned the mission at Wales 119 reindeer in 1894. The herd increased and in 1905 a herd was divided and sent to Shishmaref. By 1916, there were four herds aggregating 6608 reindeer. By 1932 these were put into one herd of 10361 deer.

In 1940 Cape Reindeer herd had 4511 deer

This is sufficient to show the effect of big herds. This is the experience of Alaska. It is only a continuation of the experience of the Old World where they have had domesticated reindeer for ages, too far back to find the history. In other numbers of the Eskimo I have shown letters of people in Norway, Sweden and Finland to this effect. The consul General of Norway said the smaller the herd the better result in the business. The late Prof. Wiklund, the greatest authority on the Laps and the Reindeer in Sweden, says that it always happens that the herds are lost, when the owner does not follow the herd. (See letters, Prof. Wiklund of Upsala University in THE ESKIMO January, 1940.)

RECORD TELLER UNIT HERD, 1932 AND 1940

Herd	1932			Total	1940		
	Native	White	Total		Native	White	Total
Teller	3148	1431	4579	|	2498	.....	.....
Wales	10361	1013	11374	|	4511	.....	.....
Shashmaref	3327	29	3356	|	4786	.....	.....
Inland	599	48	647	|	1732	.....	.....
Igloo	3149	13	3165	|	610	1872	.....
Allokeok	1549	17	1566	|	1126	.....	.....

Deering *	17244	641	17885	8072		
Nuglunuktuk *	2519	14	2533	2307		
	41896	3209	45105	25442	1872	27314
Strays						
Treasury Unit Herd				288		
Sundry estrays				102		
Buckland				674		
Nome - Douglas				75		
Koyuk				45		
Government				15		
				26641	1872	
Grand Total						28513

THE 1940 COUNT BY CORRALS

Corral where counted	Date	Number deer counted
Serpentine—March 7, 8, 9		5017
Agiapuk—March 13-23		8157
Agiapuk—March 13-23		3002
Goodhope—March 16 and 19		3201
Goodhope—March 20-21		3031
Goodhope—March 23		3769
Goodhope—March 25		2336
Total		28513

Part of the Deering herd was counted at the Teresa Creek Corral on the Deering range, and the count there has not been secured to date of issue of this Eskimo.

LATE ITEMS OF NEWS FROM NORTH—GOLOVIN HERD

The comparative counts of the Lomen Golovin Herd for the two roundups made by the Government, 1938 and 1940, as follows:

Owners	Old Mark Deer		Fawns		Mavericks		Total	
	1938	1940	1938	1940	1938	1940	1938	1940
Lomen Corp.	5264	3083	2881		959		9104	3083
Lomen chief Hdr. Walter S. ...	918	491	377		227		1522	491
Not marked				619		56		675
Co-Owners Native								
Mrs. Olson et al	799	242	259				1058	345
Stray Owners								
Native	241	95	75				316	96
	7222	3911	3592	619	1186	56	12000	4690
Grand Total							12399	4765

This would indicate about two thirds loss in past two years.

THE TELLER OR BERING HERD

The Teller herds, numbering eight, Teller, Igloo, Inland, Wales, Shishmaref, Allokoek, Espenberg, and Deering, were combined into a Unit herd, sometimes mentioned as the Bering Unit. This is following the old Lomen Idea, presented to the Council at Nome in 1931, and again in 1932, and which was attempted to be put over at the CONVENTION in secret session in December 1932. It failed to be established in those meetings and the natives rebelled against it in April, 1933.

Now it is organized. This is regretted, but it is not considered good judgment to object to what the Government does, especially when the natives have had all CONTROL of their property in reindeer taken

away by Act of Congress. (Bill No. 1722 Reindeer 1937.)

It is only possible to wait the result. The experiment of forming into companies has not been a success. Mainly because the reindeer company became a regiment in size and a regiment in an army cannot be handled except by platoons and squads under charge of drill sergeants. To expect reindeer to be controlled by turning them loose in regiments did not prove successful, and is not likely to do so in future.

THE WOLF PEST

Wolves are being killed in many of the native herds, but it is feared not in sufficient numbers to eliminate the pest.

The report is that Weir Negovanna killed 7 wolves this year at Wainwright.

Information from the north is that another herd of about 5000 reindeer have disappeared. The herders went to sleep or to town, and when they got back their herd was gone. They have found no more than a few stragglers that saved their lives, by flight.

DIFFERENT RANGES FOR DIFFERENT SEASONS

A reindeer man, will have a division of three ranges for his herd, if he wishes to succeed. The herd needs a summer range. This is the least difficult to preserve, for the most vegetation grows in summer. Then there should be a winter range for the whole herd this is the moss ground. The third range is for the fawning season for the mothers to have good pasturage of moss for giving strength to support herself and the growing fawn.

The winter range should not be overrun in summer. The fawning range must not be touched except during fawning season. The whole herd must be controlled by the herders at all seasons, and have attention at all times, especially when there are wolves around.

COST OF ESTABLISHING & BUILDING THE REINDEER INDUSTRY

The cost of establishing the reindeer industry and of importing the original stock from Siberia, together with the distributing the herds from Point Barrow to the Alaska Peninsula, and to the Pribilof Islands, to Atka Island, to Unalaska Island, to Umnak Island and to Kodiak Island, was \$456,660. This includes the management from 1890 to 1929, the time of the closing of the management of the reindeer by the Bureau of Education of the Interior Department. This was only \$11,709, annually, on the average. It included sending Lieutenant Bertholf around the world to bring Tunguse deer from Kamchatka. He bought and landed 254 reindeer at Teller Station, Port Clarence, in 1901.

From 1914 to 1918 the cost of the management of the reindeer industry diminished until for those years it was but \$5000 a year.

From 1930 to 1939, inclusive the cost was \$303,360.00 total.

COST OF PURCHASING OF THE NON-NATIVE REINDEER

To cure the disordered condition into which the industry had fallen, that was termed "CHAOS" in 1932 by the REINDEER CONVENTION, it was determined to purchase the non-native reindeer, acquired against the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department.

The non-native owners repeatedly declared they could not count their reindeer. This was enough evidence of the disorder and chaos of the industry.

In 1938 the Government appropriated for

the purpose of counting the non-native reindeer, \$50,000.

There was dissatisfaction with the result and in 1940 a new effort was made by an appropriation of \$75,000. 82,538 deer were bought at a cost of \$328,614. Improvements pertaining to same \$112,925.72. Total cost of purchase of non-native owned reindeer \$566,539.72.

PURCHASE OF REINDEER BY GOVERNMENT

The Government has purchased 82,538 reindeer from non-native owners. These have not yet been remarked. They are in over forty different marks. The job of rounding up and marking these seems to still remain, many of the deer are not marked at all yet, are mavericks, which will add somewhat to the task.

This great mass of reindeer, as well as an estimated one hundred and sixty thousand native owned reindeer are out on an area about as large as half the state of Texas. It cost \$50,000 to round-up and count a part of this area in 1938, and again \$75,000 to count or estimate the non-native owned reindeer in 1940. From this may be seen the task that is before the native in the near future, to get all those deer together again and to mark them.

Hanging on the skirts of these scattered bunches of reindeer are wolves from one or two, to packs of 10 to 20. The wolf is always hungry, and he kills for fun as well as to eat. How fast this horde of ravening brutes will pull down the reindeer is an unknown matter. There are the big black and grey wolves, but the Coyote, unknown in the North until recently, also has reached the tundras. It is not so great a pest as the big wolf, but it will kill fawns, and weak animals, several of them may pull down pretty strong animals, enough of them will wear out and worry a cow brute to death.

REINDEER MUST BE HERDED AND KEPT DOMESTICATED

The Eskimo must forget the propaganda of "Open Herding" of the reindeer — that was all bunk, put up to get the Eskimo demoralized. That has to be paid for now. If herders had been with the herds all the time, the wolves would not have increased. There have always been wolves, and the men who have herds of sheep, cattle, or reindeer have always had to fight them. This is being urged by the Reindeer Service but it is too slowly being accomplished.

CONTROL OF DEER TAKEN FROM NATIVE

The law taking the control of his deer from the Eskimo was an unjust law, and until it is repealed it is doubtful if an interest can be instilled in the native. The pay offered by the Government is not sufficient to effect it. The Native herder is expected

to save from \$20 to \$45 a month, with reindeer, or skins and sinew and meat, for food and clothing, in addition. This does not instill much sense of ownership or pride. Sweden is perhaps the best controlled of the reindeer breeding countries. Professor Wiklund, late of Upsala University, the best authority in Europe, said in his letter recently published in the **ESKIMO** that the herds are always lost when "the owner does not follow the herd." Hired herders neglect their work, it takes the interest of ownership and necessity to make a man, Lap or Eskimo, stand by his herd in the northern night and storm.

In addition to this the Government is leaving its eighty thousand and more deer remain in the native herds, expecting the native to herd and care for them. It should have learned better. In 1929, June 30th, the Government shows 9394 reindeer belonging to the Government in Alaska. There has been no report filed or published in recent years showing more than a few of these remaining. The report of the count of Teller Unit in 1940 shows 15 reindeer in the Government name.

OWNERS SHOULD BE IN CHARGE OF THEIR HERDS

It is better that the herd be in charge of the largest owner, or that large owners have their own and the deer of their family in on herd, so that all will be interested in the welfare of the herd and be responsible for it. It is useless to expect success otherwise.

THE UNIT HERD

It is noted with regret that the six herds originally in the Teller Unit, combined with the two herds, Deering, and Nuglunuktuk, have been formed into a **UNIT HERD**. This was a corporation plan, and was endeavored to be put over on the Eskimos by the corporation in the Council of 1931 and also the following year. It was planned to be adopted by a secret convention in December of 1932, at which two corporation representatives met with two representatives of the Reindeer Service and one representative of the Biological Survey of the U. S. It was discussed even to the matter of the getting the resulting herd in debt, using the native deer as security for the corporation loan.

A second convention was arranged for April 1933 at which it was expected to complete the combination. The natives rejected the plan not believing that it was favorable to them. The herds had already been too much mixed. It was acknowledged at the first meeting that the situation was "CHAOS", and that the reindeer were running uncontrolled where they willed, with no control. The **UNIT** herd could not promise any relief.

It has been plainly shown that big combinations of reindeer are not profitable. It is not believed that the Reindeer Service believe in the movement but that it is promoted by some influence in the office in Washington.

When the native owners objected to and rejected the plan of the **UNIT HERD**, one of the officials of the Corporation proposing the **UNIT** formation of the herd, wrote to the Assistant Secretary in Washington, and advised that a law be passed making it impossible for the natives to object, to any measure proposed by the Service.

The certain corporation urging the adoption of this plan for combining and mixing the herds that had been urged for years and the application of it has been at all times an absolute failure. For the Government to follow this course seems to be either a case of some influence in Washington inimical to the reasonable and practical management of the reindeer, or a domination of the industry with a view of mass production of reindeer products to sell in the United States. Neither one is valuable to the native.

The native needs the reindeer more as a means of living than as a profit taking business. The industry cannot compete with the beef, pork and mutton in the markets of the States, with the great distance to the markets. With a near market it will pay them to market their surplus, but it will not pay them to sell their product at the price that they must sell them, and buy the meats and other products to replace them and pay the dealers profits and the high freight both ways to place their meat in the market and to pay the freights and charges necessary to get goods into the hands of the natives.

In seeming compliance with the demand of the employee of the reindeer corporation to make a law stopping the natives objecting to doubtful innovations in the reindeer industry an Act was passed. A reasonable law, giving encouragement to the native to take an interest in his herds, by giving him laws similar to those of Sweden, the country most successful in reindeer management was introduced in Congress by Delegate Diamond.

The Secretary of the Interior, by a message to Congress forced changes in the Act which was presented by Mr. Diamond, Delegate representing Alaska, which eliminated the larger part of the beneficial features and added that all control in every way be taken from the native and vested in the Secretary of the Interior. This destroyed all initiative in the native. For nearly fifty years the native has been building up his herds. Now he has his property manage-

ment taken away. The accounts of the herd of 30,000 to 40,000 are too complicated for him to understand. He can count the herd, which the Service graciously allows him to do, then complicated tables are made of all eight herds mixed, and with a big sheet of "Over and Short" that would take a Philadelphia lawyer to decipher, estimates of how many there in the herd based on the females, instead of on the real number counted in the herd, are presented.

If it is desired to kill the ability and the interest of the native, this is about as complete a way as could be chosen. The Eskimo owner, who should have a thousand deer in his herd, cannot point out a single one that he owns. And the herd is being managed by absent treatment passed out from Washington.

Would farmers of a county or a state of the United States submit to this? Perhaps they would go on RELIEF.

The Eskimo is discouraged. His spirit is broken. He worked years to accumulate a few deer, at first at six deer a year, some did not get that many. He has cared for and built up his little herd for 25 to 30 years, and now — **HAS IT TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT.** They even hire irresponsible herders to go out to tend those deer.

What can be expected from this situation?

WOLVES RAVAGE

A pack of wolves of 15 or more are reported near the Gates Roadhouse, on Nome River, a few miles from Nome.

The Alaska Miner says; "Wild Life Agents say, 'reindeer are decreasing rapidly, in some places none of the animals at all.'"

The Alaska Sportsman publishes, Pilot Bill Munoz says "The whole Peninsula seems to be overrun with them," "Often as many as ten running in a pack."

One pair of wolves may have from six to ten pups.

LAW ON LEASE OF RANGE DISREGARDED

The law of 1927 that leases be made for the lands for range of reindeer has been disregarded for **FOURTEEN YEARS.** This is unexplainable. The Eskimo reindeer owner should know where he has rights on his range, and so that he can resist encroachment, and protect himself. For over twenty years the Eskimo has been aggressed upon, and robbed. This would not have been possible had he been protected by the Government in his rights to lands on which to herd his deer.

ALLOTMENT SHOULD HAVE THREE RANGES

Each allotment of range should be managed so that there will be three different ranges. First the winter range, with moss, and to be kept strictly for winter. Next the summer range, which will have all kinds of pasturage, grass, bushes and other for age. Too long keeping of the deer in marshy ground is conducive to foot disease. One year there was a loss of 25 deer in Teller range alone from this disease. Dry land generally cures it. The third range is for the fawning band in spring, on good moss, for the fawns generally come before the snow goes, in the North. No female does well without good food during the time of fawning, and suckling her young. And she must have protection during this time, for even a fox will kill a young fawn.

HERDERS HIRED INSTEAD OF OWNERS OF HERD

The practice of hiring herders who have no interest in the herd has been mentioned as bad. And the small wage of \$20 to \$45 a month with two or three deer, or skins for clothing, and seal-oil and meat for food additional is not much inducement when in summer wages in the mining camp or at longshoring pays \$5 to \$8 a day. At the army posts, air bases and other Government work.

There are men at common labor paid \$12 per day on defense projects.

Neither Government nor any one else is likely to be able to hold a herder in summer for \$20 or \$45 for chief herder, unless he has an interest in the herd. He just will not do it. Neither would a white man. In fact white men will not herd reindeer. There is no five day week in the reindeer camp. Better to take boys and educate them as apprentices and raise them as reindeer men.

THE ESKIMO

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THE REINDEER COUNT OF 1941

In the January 1941 issue of the ESKIMO is the report of Mr. Burdick on his count of 1940. For comparison in order that the progress of the industry may be seen by those interested, owners and others, this report for 1941 is published by the ESKIMO. Thanks are due to the Reindeer Service for the information.

Herd	1 Total deer handled	2 Gov't deer handled	3 Est. total deer on range hand- led and uncounted remnants	4 Est. total Gov't. deer on range handled & uncounted remnants	5 Herd No.	6 dogs breed
(K. Co.) Akiachak	6662		10000			
Akiak (Co. K)			See K. Co.	See K. Co.		
Akuluruk	1554	465	3500	800	1	Collie
Alitak	523		1700			
Allokeok	655	11	1000	15		
Atka			1000	1000		
Barrow	3042		2500		8	Shepherd
Brower	791		875		2	Collie
Buckland			3000	450	3	Shepherd
Council			1000			
Deering	14195	4859	19600	*4859		
				(inc. Gov't-Kotz.)		
Eek (K. Co.?)	3358	1641	3240	1600		
Ekwak	391	23	300	20	6	Shepherd
Elim			150			
Golovin			3500	2650	1	Shepherd
Halkett	456		600		4	Collie
Hooper Bay			173	173		
Igloo	6365	160	12000	160		
Inland	8135	388	8500	388		
K. Clark & Assist.			See K. Co.			
K. Company	18920		20760	3800		
Kivalina-Noatak	3660		4500		10	Shepherd
Nunivak Island	10675	10675	18000	18000	3	
Naknek			3000	2500	3	Shepherd
Nome-Douglass	5058	2	2500			
Nuglunuktuk	3753	112	8000	125		
Pilot Point			2130			
Pt. Hope			1000		6	Shepherd
Pt. Lay			see Wainwright			
Pribilof Islands			1050	1050		
Qunbhagak	1749	296	3000	See K. Co.		
Guichtuk	2984	1434	3000	See K. Co.	6	Shepherd
St. Lawrence Island	8988		12000	660		
St. Michael			4000	2000	1	Shepherd
Selawik	2408	4	3000	6	1	Shepherd
Shageluk			600			
Shaktoolik	2153	1062	1200	1100	2	Collie
Shishmaref	2380	65	5000	65		
Shungnak			230		2	Shepherd
Teller			4000	See Teller Unit herd	15	Shepherd
†† Teller Unit herds						
Deering No. 1	4067	101				

Deering No. 2	8640	262				
Igloo	4082	99	19500	1800		
Inland	4349	108				
Nuglunuktuk	7400	205				
Shishmaref	2474	78				
Teller	6473	210				
Tanunuk	5895		6500		2	Shepherd
Togiuk			2500			
Umnak			800	800		
Unalakleet	5022	2261	4350	2275	1	Mongrel
Wales (Cape)	1360	27	300	6		
Wainwright	2207		3000		14	Collie
Totals	160814	24548	206558	46302	91	

† Following herds of Kuskokwim Unit belong to and carry the K. Company earmark: Akiachak, Akiak, Eek, Goodnews Bay, Quinhagak, Quithluk. In some instances local Reindeer Sup't., did not supply estimates for columns No. 4 and 5 in which cases reader is referred under "See K. Company", to estimates submitted by Kuskokwim Unit Manager. There are no duplications of figures.

†† Mixed herds of Bering Unit belonging to and jointly operated by native owners of Bering Unit. These herds are handled and financed by Ass'n. Of Teller Unit herds independent of herds which are handled and financed by individual village organizations.

* Column.—The 1,559 deer includes the herd of 4,684 deer removed from Deering to Government-Kotzebue range in March 1941

NOTE: Figures of Column 5 do not include reindeer owed to Government in over and short accounts.

REINDEER HISTORY

The reindeer industry in Alaska was initiated fifty years ago. On Nov. 12, 1890, Dr. Sheldon Jackson, the Gen. Agent of Education for Alaska, addressed the Commissioner of Education, Department of the Interior, asking that reindeer be brought to Alaska to be distributed among the natives, as a means of subsistence, and to prevent starvation. He cites the condition of the native from Unalaska to Point Barrow, saying there was, **THE SAME SHORTAGE OF FOOD.** This has been told many times, and is still denied by some people who wish to show that the reindeer were not brought for the natives, but assume that the animals were for their special benefit for speculative purposes.

Sixteen reindeer were brought from Siberia on the Revenue Cutter "BEAR" in 1891 and were landed on Amaknak Island, in the Bay of Unalaska. This proved that they could be transported, safely.

Congress was asked for an appropriation to bring reindeer. The appropriation was not made. Jackson asked for subscriptions for funds to procure reindeer. The sum of \$2,146 was secured, even children contributing, two gave ten dollars each.

The summer of 1892 there were 171 reindeer bought in Siberia, and landed at Port Clarence, Alaska, where a reindeer station was established and named Teller, for Senator, afterward Secretary of Interior, Henry M. Teller, of Colorado.

Cabins were built for a station, corrals, shelter cabins, on the range, corrals at the

station were constructed. Laps from Norway, and herd dogs for handling the reindeer were brought, paid for by subscription.

More deer were brought. The herd increased and as soon as enough to make another herd the nucleus of other herds was established.

The men who worked in the service, most of them, worked at their duties day and night, through all disadvantages, winter and summer, explored the new ranges, drove the deer to them, the apprentices, native boys, stood watch night and day. The Laps instructed in reindeer practice, the apprentices learned to milk reindeer, to herd them, to drive them. The logs for the log cabins were hauled by reindeer.

For twenty five years the work progressed. The herds were distributed from Point Barrow to the Aleutian Islands and Kodiak, even to Metlakatla in southeastern Alaska.

Then the attack began to take the reindeer from the Eskimo, in the effort to make it a commercial venture, and especially a speculative promotion, a money making venture. Wedges were driven into the herds on the Seward Peninsula, like military salients, with the idea of eventually consolidating the drives and of excluding the native from the area surrounding the shipping places, to concentrate the shipping so that the Eskimo would have to drive to the killing places from surrounding herds for hundreds of miles.

Under the white man's aggression the industry has declined, almost from the time of the attack. The first cause was the aggravating of animals. Too many in a herd.

Then, to save expense the cry of "Scientific management" and "Open herding, like the western cattle country" was raised, and for the next 25 years the industry has gone to pieces. In 1932 a convention was held to consider combination of the herds in Teller Unit, the Bering Unit of today, into which additional herd areas have been incorporated, making it larger. This was intended to put the Unit, a creation of the Lomen Reindeer Corporation, into a position in which it could be used as a base for securing loans by the corporation from the R. F. C. by giving native reindeer as a part of the security. The scheme failed by the opposition of the natives. And that convention declared the reindeer industry was CHAOS.

The objection to the using the native property as security for the White Man's Corporation, furnishing nine tenths of the property, and letting the white man handle it, has been put aside. The corporation is removed. The Government has eliminated the white owner interest.

But the Government has eliminated the native's interest in the reindeer management, by taking away his rights of property. All CONTROL of the property of the native is placed in the hands of the Government, and by domination of the Secretary of the Interior it was done by law, a case of the executive dominating the legislative function of government. Gibbon, the Historian of Rome, said that "Was the end of civil liberty."

The task of rebuilding the self respect of the Eskimo, the restoring in him the feeling of the possession of the reindeer, so that when he sees the herd he will exclaim, like one did at Teller, in 1915, "See the deer, and they are ours," is at hand.

The Eskimo used to know every deer he owned. He said, "See that fine sled deer, that my deer". Or "See that spotted fawn. I make parka for my girl from that skin." Now he has no individual interest. His village herd is mixed with eight or ten other herds, and the deer are scattered for a hundred miles. He seldom sees a deer, except at a roundup.

The question now is one of reconstruction. It cannot be put into the "horse and buggy" days of milking reindeer and making reindeer cheese. But much of the old practice is based on centuries of experience and has not changed. Certain base principles cannot be changed. The REINDEER MUST BE HERDED AND GUARDED.

HOPE FOR THE REINDEER INDUSTRY

It is hoped that the tide of the Reindeer Industry has reached its lowest ebb. It will be thirteen year in December since I asked the Interior Department to separate

the reindeer in Alaska and give each man his own property. I stated that a corporation was absorbing the natives property in reindeer and range. I gave the figures, part of them, but enough to prove the case, that it had been doing this for 15 years and had defied the laws and the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department in order to effect its aims.

I asked that the ranges be defined and leases be given as was provided by the law of 1927.

I asked that the law as prescribed in the Alaska Code of 1913 be put in force to make estrays be returned to their owner, not be held under an "OVER and SHORT" accounting that no native could really understand or keep track of.

I asked that each owner be compelled to care for his herds and keep on his own grounds.

All of this is good stock practice. Was it done? NO! It was not. Nothing was done for about four months when I filed a second petition, giving more data, showing more facts.

Then no heed would have been taken it appears, had it not been that a reporter got the story and issued a headline in the Post Intelligencer of Seattle, Washington, that the complaint had been made. This made it impossible to delay investigation, and Ernest Walker Sawyer was appointed to investigate the matter.

On the report of Mr. Sawyer, which was not made public, a committee was appointed, Senator John B. Kendrick, a personal friend of the president of the Corporation; Assistant Attorney General Charles P. Sisson, who had just returned from investigating the re-appointment for local District Judge of the former president of the Corporation which was complained of having absorbed native property; Congressman Scott Leavill, to hold hearings on the matter.

The complaints which had been made were not placed before the Committee. They were not considered, and after some discussion the Proposed PLAN of the corporation to reorganize the reindeer industry under rules and regulations which the President of the Corporation stated were made by him, and a proposal for the Corporation to take charge of the sale of all the products of the native industry, was taken into consideration. The Committee appeared to be favorable to adopting the whole plan of the Corporation, when Judge James Wickersham, Delegate from Alaska, objected.

The Committee held nine meetings, and adjourned, and advised the vacation of two of the native ranges held by the Corporation and leave them for the use of the na-

tives. It did not act on the question of the separation of the native from the Corporation reindeer.

The Corporation and the Biological Survey, for years promoted the mixing of the native deer with the corporation herds. The Corporation butchered over fifty thousand deer for sale and the natives with as many as ten thousand deer in the Corporation herd, had no sale except deer taken by the Corporation for herd fees for herding not done, and on other pretexts. It blocked the vacation of the two ranges. It held a convention to endeavor to consolidate the native and Corporation herds. It wished to make the native reindeer a security for credit of the Corporation. It acknowledged that the herds of native reindeer and of the Corporation reindeer, were in a state of CHAOS, and could not be separated. They performed other inimical acts against the welfare of the natives. It attempted to sell their reindeer and appurtenances to the Dear public for an exorbitant, almost fabulous price and failed. They then sold to the Government property that the financial backer of the company alleged that they had lost \$200,000 a year in handling.

It finally manipulated the case so that the Government purchased the white interests, as a face saving matter to cover a very unfortunate situation.

The reindeer have passed into the hands of the Government. A law has been passed by Congress taking all control of the native owned reindeer into the hands of the Secretary. The natives who for more than forty years successfully managed their herds until their management was tampered with and disorganized by the "Open herding" practiced for years by the Corporation, and advised by the Biological Survey, and the system of destroying the native interest in his property — percentage marking of mixed native and corporation deer manipulated by a system of "Over and Short" — till the native does not actually know if he has any deer or not, has about ruined the industry. It has ruined the spirit of the Eskimo people on their reindeer.

It is now hoped that the Unit system as practiced in forming huge, unmanageable herds will be abolished and the property of the native in reindeer be returned to him and he be allowed to care for his own property as he formerly did before he was demoralized by the interference of the white man.

It is hoped that the future years by their reports will show a more healthy condition and that the native will recover his old time spirit.

DO NOT GO IN DEBT

Every nation had a proverb about going in debt, and all agree that it is bad—*ezeetuk*—. Get your reindeer herd. Own it yourselves, but do not go in debt.

Thomas Jefferson said:

"The principle of spending money to be paid by posterity under the name of funding, is but swindling futurity on a grand scale." Letter, 1816.

Andrew Jackson said:

"If a national debt is considered a national blessing, then we can get on by borrowing. But as I believe it is a national curse, my vow shall be to pay the national debt." Letter, July 4, 1824.

This is true of every person, unless he thinks he can get rich on what he owes, and to believe that breaks more men than anything else.

"If you want the time to pass quickly, just give your note for 90 days" said one wise man.

"Better to go to bed supperless, than to rise in debt," says an English proverb.

"Living on trust is the way to pay double," is another bit of wisdom.

The Japanese proverb is, "Better go without rice for a little than be in debt for long."

"He is rich who owes nothing," is a Hungarian proverb. A proverb is a truth told in a short way, and which a whole people has agreed on.

Interest has to be paid on debt. If you can't get a thing without paying interest on it, better to not have it—interest eats up what you make—generally faster than you make the money to pay it.

ESKIMO SCHOOL TEACHER LONGEST SERVICE IN ALASKA

Arthur Nagozrook is believed to have the longest service record of any teacher in Alaska. He was appointed at Wales in 1914 and has served almost continuously since that year until the present. His service began at Wales. He is this year at Napakiak, on the Kuskokwim. In 1938 he was at Nuni-vak where he was stationed in 1935 transferred there from King Island where he had served since 1929.

THE ESKIMO

C. L. ANDREWS, Editor and Publisher.

Issued quarterly at 1734 Villard St., Eugene, Oregon.

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THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

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October, 1943

REINDEER DATA FOR THE YEAR 1942-3

A Summary of Report of the reindeer industry of Alaska for fiscal year ending June 30, 1943, has been, given by the courtesy of Mr. Claude M. Hirst, the Chief of the Office of Indian Affairs in Alaska, and also through the General Reindeer Supervisor at Nome, Alaska, Mr. J. S. Rood has been received. The "statement of data regarding reindeer activities during the year, is presented as follows.

Reindeer Butchered for Human Consumption, etc.

For human consumption	14,305½
For local sale	2,600½
For Export sale	1,046

Reindeer butchered for fawn skins

For use of natives	839
For local sale	619
For export sale	13

Total reindeer butchered 19,723

Herding

Number herders employed	122
No. months herding performed, Approx.	977

No. Coyotes and wolves killed on range and reported to superintendents.

Trapped	53
Shot	158

Total 211

Herd dogs, number	83
No. corral handlings held during the year	23
Total reindeer handled in corrals	67,795

Estimated total reindeer on range, March 31, 1943, handled and in uncounted remnants	162,071
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"While our Annual Reports list a total of 122 herders, other information shows that not more than 70 herders were employed steadily for constant herding; and of these the Reindeer Service paid the entire cash wages of 47. In other words, the native owners of about 120,000 reindeer, which should have the minimum of 120 herders, supplied only 23.

Even on most ranges where wolves are causing heavy destruction, such as in Bering Unit and the Bethel region, native owners will not herd reindeer; most teachers and unit managers report the natives' in-

terest in reindeer is limited to, (1) talking, (2) getting free meat and skins, and the interest in fawning is lacking, even though the resource is more valuable to the Territory than ever."

(Signed) J. S. ROOD,
Gen. Reindeer Supt.

The Eskimo would be pleased if it could publish the number of reindeer, males, females, fawns, and mavericks, and total of the herds that actually counted, so that the list could be published to show the natives who are working and who are not. Then it would be shown which herds are entirely neglecting the reindeer work and which ones are struggling to try to salvage the remnant remaining. Of the herds on the mainland it appears that only a miserable remnant remains.

And that the native does not show interest, is it strange that they have lost interest? Would not the farmers of the United States lose interest in their farms if all "CONTROL" was taken from them, hired employees put in charge. The owners be left to make their living as best they could, and no profit from their property for years, except a few, a very few, from herds of sheep or hogs or other; be given them as income from their farms.

From eight to fifteen herds in the Seward Peninsula, have been mixed into a Unit. How much have those owners received from their herds that they built by forty years of hard labor in reindeer work? The Eskimo will willingly publish a statement of that kind. The Government started out with 83,600 reindeer in 1940, as shown by the Burdick Report. It took charge of all the reindeer of the natives by eliminations from and amendment of S. B. 1722, and H. R. 5166. This was presented by Delegate Diamond of Alaska, who was elected to represent the Alaskan people. Mr. Ickes presented nine eliminations that virtually destroyed the best features of the Bill. He also added an amendment putting all CONTROL of handlings, markings, and butcherings, in the hands of Secretary Ickes. This appears to be dominating legislation. (See H. R. 5126 75th Cong. 1st Sess. also "Alaska Legislation," June 22, 1937, pp. 17-19.

Natives in three different villages were deprived of their reindeer possessions between 1915 and 1921. A suit to protect the natives of one village was thrown out of court with-

out a trial, and an appeal was denied by a letter of an officer of the Department of Justice. (See Hearing of Reindeer Com. 1931, p. 419-420.)

Complaints on behalf of the natives were unheeded and the officer who presented them was told to get along with his neighbors or else—.

Thousands of reindeer belonging to natives, were taken and held unlawfully by the corporation organized expressly for that purpose. The president of the Corporation was appointed as the judge of the court of the district.

After the Kendrick Hearings on the Reindeer Committee, advised that two ranges be vacated by the corporation, a cattle man from Montana, with no knowledge of reindeer handling was put in charge of the field work, apparently to try to turn the native owned reindeer into corporation hands.

During this treatment the reindeer of the natives shrank from about 300,000 in 1929-30, to 168,950 in 1940. During this time the reindeer of the native had been bandied around between the hands of the Corporation, the Governor of Alaska, the Reindeer Council, on which the Corporation Secretary was the dominating member; an agent sent apparently to manage the native owned reindeer in the interest of the Corporation, and finally landed in the hands of the Office of Indian Affairs.

The Eskimo had seen his reindeer thrive for ten years, and he had been plundered for sixteen years before that began. Is it to be wondered that he is discouraged and does nothing but "talk", as Mr. Rood suggested? What else can he do? He cannot sue in the courts. One suit was manhandled in 1916. The Secretary of the Interior dictates the management and hires the herders who handle the herds. How much does the Eskimo get in return from his life work after the herders are paid for neglecting his property, not even counting most of the herds so he knows not even how many his company owns, and they are scattered in every herd in the UNIT.

The Unit, is a hangover from the corporation, who presented it at the Reindeer Committee in Washington in 1931 where no Eskimo had a place. It was in the PROPOSED PLAN which was to give the total product of the Eskimo owned herds into the hands of the Corporation to sell at cost plus 10 to 15% and the native take the remains. In 1931 the native entrusted the Corporation with 5,200 carcasses prepared for shipping, and at the end of two years the sales did not equal the charges by about \$22,000.

The old men, the ones who have accumulated the reindeer by a lifetime of labor, some beginning in 1894 as apprentices at six reindeer and food for a year, are old

and seeing their savings eaten up by a set of young fellows with no interest but their pay. They lie in their tents while the wolves eat the reindeer capital of the owners.

How much has been distributed to the native owners in the past ten years? How much income did any one owner realize? Will some one speak up?

The younger generation has been spoiled by white traders bootlegging intoxicants, by pool room proprietors, by gamblers, by big wages in mines, by smallpox, syphilis, Spanish Influenza, by measles and T.B. till a herder can hardly be had. In the past year the best men have either volunteered for the Service, or have been drafted. They are patriotic notwithstanding their mistreatment and neglect tendered to them.

Before any success can come to the reindeer industry the lease law of 1927 must be enforced, the deer that are mixed in the herds all over the country gathered and turned over to the owners, and their mark of ownership restored. They have been so impoverished by the alienation of their only actual property for all these years, that they are not able to do it themselves, and they are prevented doing it by that law giving all CONTROL in MANAGEMENT etc., into the hands of Secretary Ickes.

At a cost of \$301,500 in 1914 the industry had been built up to 37,828, reindeer owned by natives. They had entered as apprentices and accumulated them as such and as herders. The first year they got six deer. The Laps had pried loose 10,007, that were supposed to have been to be distributed to natives for work. Missions had accumulated 5,924 deer intended to be distributed to the natives. Today the native owned deer are nearly back to the number of 1914, deer that were counted as they were then.

The Bureau of Education handled the native reindeer management until 1929, a term of 46 years, and every year an increase of 23% on an average. About 500,000 reindeer were on the ranges.

Under the Bureau of Education from 1894 to 1929, the appropriations were \$456,660. less than \$10,000 a year, it left 500,000 reindeer on the ranges.

1930 to 1939, the appropriations were \$308,415. Average \$30,845.50. In 1930 the Burdick count shows 252,600 reindeer.

1940 to 1943 appropriations were \$331,900., average \$82975.

The count of 1943, shows 67,795. The report estimates there are 162,071 reindeer on the range. Only 23 herds were counted, of 52 herds in 1940.

Under the Burdick count there were 83,600 reindeer purchased of non-native own-

ers, for the sum of \$328,326. Improvements were bought to amount of \$112,925, consisting of slaughter-houses, cold storages, corrals, etc. The natives handled their herds for 46 years with only corrals built by themselves, no slaughter houses, or cold storages. They weathered the depressions on their own resources.

LAPPS AND THEIR REINDEER IN SWEDEN

In Sweden, one of the most carefully managed of the reindeer breeding countries, in 1929 the Consul General of the U. S. at Stockholm reported:

The reindeer breeding is confined to the nomadic Lapps. The Lapps are classified as (1) The Mountain Lapps, who make regular migrations between the forest and mountain regions for pasturage of their reindeer. (2) The Forest Lapps who keep their reindeer in particular districts of Vastebotten. (3) The Fisher Lapps, who have no deer and who subsist by hunting and fishing. All the Fisher Lapps have fixed habitations, the Reindeer Lapps are nomads.

The breeding of the reindeer demands the nomadic life. The owner must follow his herd and be there to see that his deer are properly cared for, or he will have no herd.

At the time of that report there were between 7000 and 8000 total Lapps in Sweden. A recent report of the Lapp Commission gave the total Lapp population as 8129, of whom 2775 are engaged in the reindeer industry. It classes them as

Mountain Lapps	2291
Forest Lapps	484
Engaged in Reindeer	2775

The rest are fisher Lapps and other employments.

These Lapps own 181,577 reindeer and are in the Provinces of Norbotten, Vasterbotten and Jamtland. The reindeer stock varies in different years. It increased from 1921 to 1929 about 75,000 animals, and this increase indicated that there might be a total of reindeer of 250,000. Some of the pasture lands of the Lapps was becoming overstocked. They watch that very closely and allow no more than a certain number in each area.

The reindeer are divided into two classes, distinctly different biological groups, one the mountain, the other the forest reindeer.

The value of the reindeer is as follows;
Steers—60 to 70 kronor (\$18.08 to 18.78)

Reindeer cow—40 to 50 kronor (\$10.72 to \$13.40)

Reindeer fawn—15 to 20 kronor (\$4.02 to \$6.36)

Some of the older Lapps remain in a fixed

home and the young people follow the herd from 120 to 180 miles or even farther. Some of them are taking to a farm life.

They have nomad summer schools, of which there are 30 with 30 teachers, most of whom are Lapps, and for children from 7 to 10 years. These schools are open for 3½ months, followed by winter schools from the middle of November to April. The first and second readers are in the Swedish language, and were prepared by the late Prof. K. B. Wiklund, of Usala University. The second reader contains instructive articles in relation to the raising and care of the reindeer and the children are taught to love and understand this useful animal.

The migratory movements of the reindeer are regulated by the reindeer themselves rather than by their herders. The reindeer instinct prompts them, and the Lapps follow them. They go to the mountains as soon as the snow melts, and remain during the calving season until June, which indicates that their fawning season there is later than in Alaska, where it is from the middle of April to the middle of May. Later they go farther into the mountains to escape the mosquitoes, which seem to annoy them as badly as they do in Alaska.

The providing of a text book for Alaskan Eskimos of a first and second reader, that would relate to matters in the same way as these books of Prof. Wiklund do to the education of the Swedish Lapps is desirable. The text books used in Alaska are of matter entirely foreign to the mind of an Eskimo trying to learn to read. The Eskimo child is living Eskimo, thinking Eskimo, and speaking Eskimo till he is taught English in the schools. Then he has reading books that mean nothing to him. He cannot think of what he is reading. If he reads of something which was familiar to him, he would grasp the meaning much sooner.

In winter the Lapps in Sweden dress much like the Eskimos do in Alaska, but the cut of garments is different. They use the reindeer for both pack animals and sled travel.

There seem to be no expensive slaughter houses in Lapland for the reindeer to be prepared for market. The Lapp, on the approach of winter, when the first stiff frosts come, takes his marketable deer, butchers them on the feeding ground, dresses them, lines a large box with skins of reindeer and wraps the chilled and frozen meat in the skins, then drives his sled deer to the nearest point on the railway, where he ships them to Stockholm. The Government makes it a rule to see that he gets a fair market price there, not trusting to the tender mercies of the commission merchant or a corporation like the one taking 5200 carcasses of reindeer in Alaska and selling it to itself to prepare dog food, "White Rover" variety.

The Consular report says that herds of more than 1000 reindeer are exceptional, but

are found in some districts. He states that the largest herd that can be managed by a ordinary sized family, without other help, is from 400 to 500. Several families often combine and manage their herds together. This is the better way than that recently followed in Alaska.

The idea that a man and his family can live in a village, and stay in their igloo is impossible for a reindeer man. The first trouble in Kivalina, Alaska, came where there were five herds, each with its own range, and varying from Otpelle, with about 500 reindeer to George Onalik with nearly 1500. Elektoona, was one of the early apprentices in the service, he finally settled in Kivalina and had his herd to the eastward in the valley. As he grew old, his wife wished to live in the village, so he moved in, and hired young men to herd for him. They were careless, did not stay with the herd, it ran away, and mixed with all the other herds in the valley. These were separated in the fall of 1923, all the herds were put through the chute and separated, each to its own herd. In course of time all the herds were combined and the herd was so large that 42,000 reindeer were rounded up and counted in one year.

The big herd was an impossibility. There was no owner who had interest enough to control. What was everybody's business was nobody's business, "It was a case of you tend to my business and I'll tend to yours," It fell with the rest and in the Burdick count of 1940, entrusted to the Forestry Bureau of the Agriculture Department, there were but 5,875 reindeer found, and in 1942 the count showed but 1302. Seveck is now in charge of the herd and will probably salvage and reconstruct the herd, but what is he getting for it? He owned over half that many when the herd was formed, what is his share today? How much will the seat warmers in the igloos want? The increase will hardly afford one reindeer to each family.

Seveck seems to wish some one to finance the herd. The natives who earned reindeer by their apprenticeship of six to ten deer a year, went on their own for thirty years. They had more fur in those days — the white man had not put out so many traps. There were more migratory birds. In 1917 they had 2882 reindeer, in four herds, average 712 animals. The fur was; lynx 439, red fox 83, white fox 11, Cross fox 10, mink 14, ermine 10, and they killed six caribou. In 1938 a letter states; "Not many game now like it used to be. Walrus, seals, oogoorook, not many, only 18 in whole village, fish are scarce, foxes scarce, most men only got two foxes." In 1913 the village took 733 white fox.

In 1942 Seveck was hopeful. He wrote: "I was working in reindeer one year now. We have good fawning almost every female has a fawn, very few die from stillborn and desertion. I learning each female to have a fawn. . . . Now I work hard to get it back to big increase". He adds, "I made eight sled deer already".

In 1942 the fur was better, the catch was 20 or 30 white fox, 25 or 30 red fox, 10 or 12 mink, 20 or 30 seals. But this is a poor catch for a village.

It was a disastrous experiment. Large unherded bodies of reindeer are extremely unprofitable.

CHESTER SEVECK TALKS OF REINDEER MANAGEMENT

Chester Seveck, son of Cokeek, is one of the younger of the old reindeer men who know how to handle herds, herders and reindeer. I have slept in his tent at the marking and the butchering camps. I traveled with him with reindeer sleds, from Kivalina to Wainwright, 325 miles, visiting every reindeer herd on the way, crossing the Endicott Mountains about fifty miles from Pt. Hope. He has been guide and assistant with the Geological Survey parties on different years, and was highly spoken of by the men in charge. He recently wrote two memorandas of several pages each giving his views of his people and their management of their reindeer and of the management of reindeer by the younger men.

He says; "A reindeer is easy to control, and to develop by a real good herder. Reindeer are not ugly, very kind, easy to handle, very seldom get sick, easy to train, and learn. A reindeer knows poor and good feeding ground in summer, winter, fall and spring. . . . He knows good shelter from the wind, and wet ground. He knows the safe place, he knows the camp, and the herder's camp when the enemy tackles him. He knows the person who protects him from the enemy wolf. Reindeer are happy animals, never anxious to live longer. She was sorry and looking after the lost fawn, but she forget after about a week, she never calling again."

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INFORMATION NOT RECEIVED

It is a cause for regret that the ESKIMO has not been able to secure the detailed information of the separate figures of the counts of the reindeer herds for 1943. The total result was given, but no separate herd account has been received except for Kivalina and Golovin. The details were desired to see which herds were endeavoring to repair the devastation of the catastrophe which has reduced the number of reindeer from 500,000 in 1930 to 162,070 reindeer estimated on the ranges, and 67,795 actually counted in 23 herds where there were from 40 to over 70 herds, in former years.

Two causes stand out prominently in the matter. The first is, that the war conditions have made wages so high that it is impossible to get men to do herding, the young men are in the service of the United States, and older ones are working on employment necessary to the business of the country.

The other cause is, that the natives actually own no reindeer. They have all been lost or alienated by the law passed by Congress expropriating their property. None of the natives have any reindeer personally. The personal interest is destroyed. Had they this interest, the boys and girls would be tending the herds and growing up to be reindeer owners, under the oversight of the old fathers. Twenty years ago the women knew more about reindeer, and had more interests than any of the young men do now. Prof. Wiklund, late professor of Upsala University, Stockholm, Sweden, wrote, July 10, 1940, that "All experience has shown that it has always gone this way, when the owner himself does not follow the herd." and says, "The remoter the country of herding is the more impossible to control the hired workmen, the oftener whole herds 'disappear', or are torn by wolves, etc." He was the greatest authority in Sweden on the Laps and the reindeer at the time of his death. His letters were published by the ESKIMO in January, 1940.

In July 1939, the ESKIMO called attention to this matter and said, "WHAT MUST BE DONE". "First, get control of the deer and restore private ownership, recover the remaining deer from their wild state. . . Mr. Rood expressed it plainly at the hearing in Washington. "He expressed the reindeer being wild, but overlooked the vital

point of the ownership. A man will work for his own welfare, but not for a company at all times—without high wages. The reindeer work cannot pay the wages demanded by labor today. The herds must be cared for by the owners, without regard to wages, or the herd will perish.

NOTES ON HERDS WHICH HAVE REPORTED

Golovin Herd

Burdick Count 1940

Gov't. purchased	5000
Native counted	1000

Total	6000
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Count Feb. 25, 1943

Gov't	538
Native	190

Total	728
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The carbons are blurred so badly that they are almost unintelligible, and only 190 native owned deer appeared. Mrs. Olson, widow of Bimbrachim, married Olson. In 1922 when the corporation drove over and took her deer, had 700 head. She only had 22 left on this report. All the native owners are classed as estrays. None received mavericks or fawns. The Government took Mavericks and the fawns numbering 30, on a total of 350 female adults, or 9%, when the herd should have 22% on the whole herd, showing there was no protection from enemies whatever.

KIVALINA HERD

In 1930 Kivalina had 42,000 head of reindeer. She had prospered in five small herds, but combined with some other to make a big herd. Later the "scientific" methods advocated by the newly created corporation that wished to make the reindeer industry into a vast monopoly, where they sat in the counting house, while the natives did the drudgery on the ranges took effect. The corporation tried to make the natives furnish the livestock for security and issued stock for shares, sale in stock at Seventeen dollars a head for reindeer extracted from hungry natives at two and three dollars per head delivered at their slaughterhouses.

KIVALINA HERD

Burdick Count 1940

Gov't. owned	375
Native owned	5500

Total	5875
-------------	------

Count 1943

Gov't owned .....	.....
Kivalina deer	584
Noatak deer	1834
Point Hope deer	660
Point Lay deer	1

Total 3079

The herd was about to disappear, when Chester Seveck was given charge of the herd and he knows the reindeer business. He has sacrificed his own interest to work for the Kivalina Company at less than he can make at other work, in order to try to save his part of the industry. He has handled the Kivalina herd for past year. He has broken (trained) 47 sled deer. His fawn increase is 32%, which is a large percentage—on the whole herd. He marks by the mark of the mother—the only proper manner. He has solved the problem of saving his reindeer, and is trying to save the other two herds which have mixed into his herd range.

Alfred Hopson, son of Mr. Hopson late the assistant of Chas. Brower, the merchant of Barrow; is the architect and mechanic of Barrow. He has sacrificed his interests to take charge of the Barrow native herd. I have no report of his count but a letter says he has his herd under good control and little loss from wolves. These two show that the wolf menace is not unconquerable if men will attend to their herding. Robert Brower, of Barrow, has saved his herd fairly well. He reported 1200 under the Burdick count and 2,027 in 1942 count, increase of 27%.

THE CRIME AGAINST THE ESKIMOS

In 1890 the Eskimo people of western and northern, some thousands in number were driven to destitution by the whalers and traders that swarmed along their coasts and took their means of livelihood. Many of them died—how many will never be known. Eight hundred are estimated to have died on St. Lawrence Island alone in one winter.

The Government adopted a policy of securing reindeer from Siberia, and educating the Eskimo—the natives—in their breeding as a source of existence, similar to the Laps of Lapland. The animals were introduced, and the Eskimos under the care of competent and able men built up, with the work of these natives, an industry, of over 57,600 reindeer by 1914. The record is complete and in print in the Annual Reports of the Reindeer Service of the Interior Department. The report for June 30, 1911 shows the distribution from Barrow to Iliamna and the Kuskokwin. There was not a herd that was not under proper domestication, there were no strays, no mavericks, no "Overs and shorts", no mixing of herds. Every male and female adult, and fawn was shown for every owner. Each owner knew his deer, and had a personal interest in them.

The cost of management and distribution from 1914 to 1918 was but \$5000 a year. The natives were comfortable, busy, and satisfied. In that year a corporation was formed with the object of attacking the native industry. It purchased breeding stock of Missions and of Laps, neither of which had a legal right to female reindeer. It was against the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department supposed to have the effect of law to sell to any but the natives.

A suit was brought, it was purposely defective, the U.S. attorney apparently intentionally deserted the natives. It was thrown out without trial—and what was vicious, the Department of justice issued a letter forbidding further proceedings. This was a blow in the face to both the natives and the officers of the Reindeer Service. This was the first and second step in the ruin of the native reindeer industry.

The corporation continued its aggressions against the natives, and increasing its holdings by all the inimical practices of the disorderly days of the cattle breeding west. The Reindeer Service had no backing from the Government. When the Supervisor of Reindeer protested against the aggressive action, the reply from the Commissioners of Education was to "Get along with your neighbors, or else—" or to that effect.

This was another slap in the face, and from the Government officer.

The aggression continued. The corporation butchered or sold nearly sixty thousand reindeer. The natives could hardly get enough for skins for clothing and meat to eat.

Another protest for the native owners was forwarded, and directly to the Secretary of the Interior. It was pigeonholed and some one made a note in the margin, "Evidently made by some one not informed."

A reporter for a newspaper got wind of the petition, and with difficulty secured permission to consult it. A headline in the Post-Intelligencer of Seattle in 1930 forced the matter into the view of the public. A special representative of the Secretary was sent to investigate. He reported, A committee was appointed to consider his report, which was not made public.

The complaint in favor of the natives was pigeonholed and not placed before the committee which was called the Kendrick Reindeer Committee, or "Reindeer Committee", of 1931.

The Committee proceeded to consider the proposition of the Corporation called a "PROPOSED PLAN", to take charge of the butchering of the native reindeer at \$1 per head, and the shipping, storing and sale of the meat and skins at ten and fifteen per cent commission, in sort a complete monopoly of the native industry sales at cost plus, like a contract, the more expense the more

per cent to the monopoly. It was something like the old Russian American Company Charter in Russian days, or the Alaska Commercial Company in Alaska, west of the 141 meridian 1870 to 1897 a monopoly.

The corporation had formed a sub-corporation offering to sell 250,000 reindeer at about \$17 per head, and eight million acres of range principally taken out of native hands, and to which native title had not been extinguished. It was trying to float about two million dollars in stock to the dear people of Western United States. The lands had been taken by buying reindeer from missions which had been entrusted with reindeer by the Government to distribute among its wards to educate them in stock-raising. The missions had sold what their wards should have had, for thirty pieces of silver.

The committee was gaily considering approving the "PROPOSED PLAN", to hand over the Reindeer Owners and their property to the tender mercies of a Commission Merchant, when Judge James Wickersham came in, and objected. He said; You have not the right to do this. The Secretary has no right to do so. The native owners of these reindeer may want to have something to say. There were no Eskimos at the meeting. It was disposing of their property without their knowledge or consent.

The committee adjourned, advising as a compromise, that two of the ranges held by the Corporation be vacated and left for the natives.

The Corporation blocked the vacation of the two ranges through political manipulations. They secured through a bureaucrat and a lobby, that a law be passed eliminating the words for "the natives," in the appropriation, thus making it for corporations and any other. It procured a law that men experienced in animals husbandry, be employed in the industry. As there is no university with a reindeer course, all the men who were building up the native industry, were eliminated, and college men who knew nothing of reindeer substituted.

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A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 11, No. 1

EUGENE, OREGON

January, 1944

INFORMATION NOT RECEIVED

It is a cause for regret that the ESKIMO has not been able to secure the detailed information of the separate figures of the counts of the reindeer herds for 1943. The total result was given, but no separate herd account has been received except for Kivalina and Golovin. The details were desired to see which herds were endeavoring to repair the devastation of the catastrophe which has reduced the number of reindeer from 500,000 in 1930 to 162,070 reindeer estimated on the ranges, and 67,795 actually counted in 23 herds where there were from 40 to over 70 herds, in former years.

Two causes stand out prominently in the matter. The first is, that the war conditions have made wages so high that it is impossible to get men to do herding, the young men are in the service of the United States, and older ones are working on employment necessary to the business of the country.

The other cause is, that the natives actually own no reindeer. They have all been lost or alienated by the law passed by Congress expropriating their property. None of the natives have any reindeer personally. The personal interest is destroyed. Had they this interest, the boys and girls would be tending the herds and growing up to be reindeer owners, under the oversight of the old fathers. Twenty years ago the women knew more about reindeer, and had more interests than any of the young men do now. Prof. Wiklund, late professor of Upsala University, Stockholm, Sweden, wrote, July 10, 1940, that "All experience has shown that it has always gone this way, when the owner himself does not follow the herd." and says, "The remoter the country of herding is the more impossible to control the hired workmen, the oftener whole herds 'disappear', or are torn by wolves, etc." He was the greatest authority in Sweden on the Laps and the reindeer at the time of his death. His letters were published by the ESKIMO in January, 1940.

In July 1939, the ESKIMO called attention to this matter and said, "WHAT MUST BE DONE". "First, get control of the deer and restore private ownership, recover the remaining deer from their wild state. . . Mr. Rood expressed it plainly at the hearing in Washington. "He expressed the reindeer being wild, but overlooked the vital

point of the ownership. A man will work for his own welfare, but not for a company at all times—without high wages. The reindeer work cannot pay the wages demanded by labor today. The herds must be cared for by the owners, without regard to wages, or the herd will perish.

NOTES ON HERDS WHICH HAVE REPORTED

Golovin Herd

Burdick Count 1940

Gov't. purchased	5000
Native counted	1000

Total 6000

Count Feb. 25, 1943

Gov't	538
Native	190

Total 728

The carbons are blurred so badly that they are almost unintelligible, and only 190 native owned deer appeared. Mrs. Olson, widow of Bimbrachim, married Olson. In 1922 when the corporation drove over and took her deer, had 700 head. She only had 22 left on this report. All the native owners are classed as estrays. None received mavericks or fawns. The Government took Mavericks and the fawns numbering 30, on a total of 350 female adults, or 9%, when the herd should have 22% on the whole herd, showing there was no protection from enemies whatever.

KIVALINA HERD

In 1930 Kivalina had 42,000 head of reindeer. She had prospered in five small herds, but combined with some other to make a big herd. Later the "scientific" methods advocated by the newly created corporation that wished to make the reindeer industry into a vast monopoly, where they sat in the counting house, while the natives did the drudgery on the ranges took effect. The corporation tried to make the natives furnish the livestock for security and issued stock for shares, sale in stock at Seventeen dollars a head for reindeer extracted from hungry natives at two and three dollars per head delivered at their slaughterhouses.

KIVALINA HERD

Burdick Count 1940

Gov't. owned	375
Native owned	5500

Total 5875

Count 1943

Gov't owned .....	.....
Kivalina deer	584
Noatak deer	1834
Point Hope deer	660
Point Lay deer	1
.....	
Total	3079

The herd was about to disappear, when Chester Seveck was given charge of the herd and he knows the reindeer business. He has sacrificed his own interest to work for the Kivalina Company at less than he can make at other work, in order to try to save his part of the industry. He has handled the Kivalina herd for past year. He has broken (trained) 47 sled deer. His fawn increase is 32%, which is a large percentage—on the whole herd. He marks by the mark of the mother—the only proper manner. He has solved the problem of saving his reindeer, and is trying to save the other two herds which have mixed into his herd range.

Alfred Hopson, son of Mr. Hopson late the assistant of Chas. Brower, the merchant of Barrow; is the architect and mechanic of Barrow. He has sacrificed his interests to take charge of the Barrow native herd. I have no report of his count but a letter says he has his herd under good control and little loss from wolves. These two show that the wolf menace is not unconquerable if men will attend to their herding. Robert Brower, of Barrow, has saved his herd fairly well. He reported 1200 under the Burdick count and 2,027 in 1942 count, increase of 27%.

THE CRIME AGAINST THE ESKIMOS

In 1890 the Eskimo people of western and northern, some thousands in number were driven to destitution by the whalers and traders that swarmed along their coasts and took their means of livelihood. Many of them died—how many will never be known. Eight hundred are estimated to have died on St. Lawrence Island alone in one winter.

The Government adopted a policy of securing reindeer from Siberia, and educating the Eskimo—the natives—in their breeding as a source of existence, similar to the Laps of Lapland. The animals were introduced, and the Eskimos under the care of competent and able men built up, with the work of these natives, an industry, of over 57,000 reindeer by 1914. The record is complete and in print in the Annual Reports of the Reindeer Service of the Interior Department. The report for June 30, 1911 shows the distribution from Barrow to Iliamna and the Kuskokwin. There was not a herd that was not under proper domestication, there were no strays, no mavericks, no "Overs and shorts", no mixing of herds. Every male and female adult, and fawn was shown for every owner. Each owner knew his deer, and had a personal interest in them.

The cost of management and distribution from 1914 to 1918 was but \$5000 a year. The natives were comfortable, busy, and satisfied. In that year a corporation was formed with the object of attacking the native industry. It purchased breeding stock of Missions and of Laps, neither of which had a legal right to female reindeer. It was against the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department supposed to have the effect of law to sell to any but the natives.

A suit was brought, it was purposely defective, the U.S. attorney apparently intentionally deserted the natives. It was thrown out without trial—and what was vicious, the Department of justice issued a letter forbidding further proceedings. This was a blow in the face to both the natives and the officers of the Reindeer Service. This was the first and second step in the ruin of the native reindeer industry.

The corporation continued its aggressions against the natives, and increasing its holdings by all the inimical practices of the disorderly days of the cattle breeding west. The Reindeer Service had no backing from the Government. When the Supervisor of Reindeer protested against the aggressive action, the reply from the Commissioners of Education was to "Get along with your neighbors, or else—" or to that effect.

This was another slap in the face, and from the Government officer.

The aggression continued. The corporation butchered or sold nearly sixty thousand reindeer. The natives could hardly get enough for skins for clothing and meat to eat.

Another protest for the native owners was forwarded, and directly to the Secretary of the Interior. It was pigeonholed and some one made a note in the margin, "Evidently made by some one not informed."

A reporter for a newspaper got wind of the petition, and with difficulty secured permission to consult it. A headline in the Post-Intelligencer of Seattle in 1930 forced the matter into the view of the public. A special representative of the Secretary was sent to investigate. He reported, A committee was appointed to consider his report, which was not made public.

The complaint in favor of the natives was pigeonholed and not placed before the committee which was called the Kendrick Reindeer Committee, or "Reindeer Committee", of 1931.

The Committee proceeded to consider the proposition of the Corporation called a "PROPOSED PLAN", to take charge of the butchering of the native reindeer at \$1 per head, and the shipping, storing and sale of the meat and skins at ten and fifteen per cent commission, in sort a complete monopoly of the native industry sales at cost plus, like a contract, the more expense the more

per cent to the monopoly. It was something like the old Russian American Company Charter in Russian days, or the Alaska Commercial Company in Alaska, west of the 141 meridian 1870 to 1897 a monopoly.

The corporation had formed a sub-corporation offering to sell 250,000 reindeer at about \$17 per head, and eight million acres of range principally taken out of native hands, and to which native title had not been extinguished. It was trying to float about two million dollars in stock to the dear people of Western United States. The lands had been taken by buying reindeer from missions which had been entrusted with reindeer by the Government to distribute among its wards to educate them in stock-raising. The missions had sold what their wards should have had, for thirty pieces of silver.

The committee was gaily considering approving the "PROPOSED PLAN", to hand over the Reindeer Owners and their property to the tender mercies of a Commission Merchant, when Judge James Wickersham came in, and objected. He said; You have not the right to do this. The Secretary has no right to do so. The native owners of these reindeer may want to have something to say. There were no Eskimos at the meeting. It was disposing of their property without their knowledge or consent.

The committee adjourned, advising as a compromise, that two of the ranges held by the Corporation be vacated and left for the natives.

The Corporation blocked the vacation of the two ranges through political manipulations. They secured through a bureaucrat and a lobby, that a law be passed eliminating the words for "the natives," in the appropriation, thus making it for corporations and any other. It procured a law that men experienced in animals husbandry, be employed in the industry. As there is no university with a reindeer course, all the men who were building up the native industry, were eliminated, and college men who knew nothing of reindeer substituted.

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EUGENE, OREGON

April, 1944

FAVORABLE MANAGEMENT

The Unit manager of the Bering Unit, Alaska, has issued a notice of roundups to be held, and states that reindeer owners having reindeer in the herds who wish to have their reindeer separately in their own mark, must make certain preparations before this can be done. This is the best news, the most encouraging news, that has come out of the reindeer country for years. The ESKIMO believes that Eskimos in general, all over the reindeer country will welcome the change.

This will make every owner be careful of his own property. He will know that when he kills a deer it is his deer that is lost. Heretofore it has been a company deer and he had no particular interest. When this is accomplished and the herds are kept together, so that when an animal is lost, it goes into the record, whether it is lost, killed by predatory animals or birds, or any other way, it will be known and it is charged to the mark of the owner.

This is a long step toward the recovery of the reindeer industry. The next thing will be to designate the limits of each range, by lease or otherwise, so each herd owner will know the area in which he will be protected in his right to graze his animals.

HERDING WILL SAVE ROUNDUPS

When the herds are properly kept domesticated, they will be where they can be found at any time. There will no longer be the necessity to scour an area fifty or more miles square to get the deer together for counting or marking. The herd can be brought down to the corral at any time for the purpose of separating a bunch of steers to be taken to the killing pens. When an owner wants a deer for food he can go to the herd where his deer are kept and when the deer are brought in at night to be bedded down near the herder's camp, the deer can be killed and dressed and a sled deer can take the carcass to his home. That is the better way to have it, and the reindeer can be handled with less losing of deer and less excitement and dread on part of the reindeer about being corralled. The corraling at present is almost as difficult as it was for the natives to trap caribou a hundred years ago. This was done on the Kivalina and on the Noatak. Seveck told me there were remains of ten or more corrals yet near Kivalina in 1924. His father,

Cokeek described to me the manner of conducting the drive. Old Dksaodok said that he killed caribou at these corrals at the time that Captain Moore lay in Kotzebue Sound. That was the winter of 1849. He was the oldest Eskimo in Kivalina village in 1923.

LEASES TO ESKIMO REINDEER MEN ON RANGES

In 1927 a law was passed that provided for the issuing of leases to grazing lands for reindeer handling. There were six leases granted, as follows, No. 0849, to Shungnak; 0853 to Cape Reindeer Co., for 20 years; 0854 to Nuglinuktuk, Jan. 4, 1933; \$368, to Noorvik Reindeer Co. on September 24th, 1941; 0869, to Kivalina-Noatak, Sept. 25th, 1931; 0879, to Wm. Allokeok, Jan. 4, 1933, only for 2 years.

These leases were so widely separated that they were of no particular use, one was for only 2 years, one for 5, and all were so widely separated that not one had any protection from adjoining herds with no lease, that ran where they wished. The owners range was just as subject to pasturage by adjoining herds running loose as though he had no lease. This was an unexcusable condition after nearly fifty years of reindeer management. The blame rests in Washington. Other applications were being held up at request of Carl J. Lomen, the President of the Lomen Corporation. Six leases granted out of 42 applications, in 13 years. In 1913 Walter Shields begged for action to be taken that would avert this disaster that he saw approaching and warned against.

For the past 13 years the business has been run by men endeavoring to build up a big stock business with an expensive overhead, accounting house full of clerks, abattoirs aping the big packing houses of Chicago and Omaha.

The reindeer industry is one for the natives to live on and clothe themselves by. The Laps in Scandinavia do that way, the government protects them there, and they have a comfortable living. Here this operation in big herds has about ruined a native population and industry, to try to help out a speculator. The industry cannot carry such an establishment.

What has been done with the \$112,000 property purchased in 1940? How many big establishments were operated? From 1914 to 1918 only \$5000 was used in the work

and the business was prospering and doing that for which it was initiated. Now with all this poppy-cock in 14 years a business built in forty years has been torn to pieces and nearly destroyed, with an appropriation of nearly one hundred thousand a year.

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

The only thing of commonsense of any kind that has been recently proposed in the reindeer service in Alaska, is just now being advocated by the field force.

In 1929 I petitioned the Secretary of the Interior to separate the herds and give each man his own reindeer, to carry out the law of 1927 and allot with as little expense as possible, the ranges for each man or family or association holding reindeer, and fix the boundaries, make every man herd his own animals and keep the law on strays, which provides for the return to the owner upon paying charges. Also it was asked that an accounting be made of the native deer held on corporate lands for the years the said deer had been held.

I showed that as many as ten thousand Native owned reindeer were held in the hands of companies and individuals, that the owners were charged unreasonable herd bills for herding not done, was that the reindeer were unlawfully held, and the increase absorbed.

The petition was at first ignored and when forced into public view by newspaper publicity, an inquiry was made, and a Committee called the Kendrick Reindeer Committee was appointed to consider the matter. The committee did not consider the petition but proceeded to consider a PROPOSED PLAN of a corporation, to take charge of all native reindeer products, handle them at a fixed price for butchering and sell under a commission of 10 per cent to 15 per cent.

The reindeer had that year been turned over to the office of the Governor, to a man who knew nothing of the reindeer breeding; the men who had built up the industry to 500,000 animals were by political intrigue and bureaucratic influence thrown out of the service and inexperienced men put in charge who neither were stockmen nor economical. Hundreds of thousands have been squandered, and the herds reduced from an estimate by the Governor when he took charge, of over 599,000, in 1929; to a counted number of just over 67,000 in 1943.

Now they are proposing to separate the herds, or to get the natives to do it after they have, many of them, lost the use of their property for years, and have each man handle his own. That is good sense, but some of the means proposed are non-senseical. The Government played into the hands of the men who broke into the native industry, disorganized it, grabbed their deer by the thousands, and kept them hiring

Laps at \$2000 a year to boss the owners and charging them for the cost, absorbing and selling the increase and in some cases the original capital, while the owners, instead of being independent reindeer breeders, were simply serfs, hired as occasion offered to do the common work of the herd.

The new move is toward sanity, but the government should separate those herds, at its expense. They allowed the grabbing, through violation of its RULES AND REGULATIONS, supposed to have the effect of law. It should make good to those men and out of the reindeer it purchased from the non-native sellers, enough reindeer to fill the number of deer taken by the parties which grabbed them, and give them that number on which to recoup their holdings unlawfully taken away.

The appropriation allowed for the work for the past four years has been sufficient to have accomplished in three years had it been applied properly in stead of buying bum boats, pick-ups, and other appliance not used in building the industry originally.

When this is done the owners will handle their own property and there is no use keeping as great a force in the service.

SOKWEENA'S PLEA

Thomas Sokweena is one of the first Eskimos to be an apprentice in the reindeer work. He was with Mr. Lopp at Wales from 1894 until he became a herder and took his deer he had earned and went on land for himself between the Buckland River and the Keewalik. In 1910 he had 273 reindeer, and Evans Ablee had 94. There were 407 reindeer in the herd, and six others had from two to 15 deer in the herd. It was a small herd just beginning and they were hoping to increase the herd till it would make a comfortable living for them and their families. They hereded and cared for them well, every man knew his deer by sight and his mark was on every one.

In 1917 Lapp herders from the Kotzebue-Lomen herd left the Lomen & Co. herd at the east and drove their deer into the Buckland herd range.

Sokweena complained to Superintendent Shields, who was the Government officer in charge of the reindeer of that district, about the intruders, the Lapp Hatta and others, on September 16th 1917. He asked for help in driving away the invader.

Shields wrote for him to see Lapp Hatta and to try to get him to remove, saying; "I believe Hatta would do what is right about the ground." The Lap stayed right there.

The Lapp and his companions stayed on Buckland range and deliberately pastured upon it.

Shields had officially petitioned the Interior Department that had charge of the lands and the reindeer industry, that it take

measures to defend the native grazing grounds from aggression. This was done in 1913, but no action had been taken. Other protests were made but all were disregarded.

In or before 1921 Lomen & Company, a corporation organized for the purpose of breaking into the native reindeer industry which had been so successful, that certain white men were searching for ways to get the native reindeer, bought the Hatta herd.

This corporation purchased the reindeer of the Lapp Hatta and others, and deliberately took possession of the native owned reindeer on Buckland range and assumed control over the whole range.

Superintendent Sylvester C. Chance was in charge of the district when the purchase was made, and he endeavored to separate the corporation reindeer from the native owned herd and to put the intruders out and back on the range from which they came.

The secretary of the Lomen & Company, wrote an impudent letter, saying that if he, Supt. Chance, attempted to handle the corporation herd, and caused any damage he would be held for the damages.

Superintendent Chance knew that Superintendent Shields had asked that suit be brought against a certain Mission to restrain them from selling deer entrusted to them for distribution among their wards. He knew that the suit had been through some political influence delayed for five years so the corporation could clinch its hold on the deer and ranges it had seized. He knew that the suit had been thrown out of court without trial, and it had been ordered by political and official authority that no farther suit could be brought. He knew that the former president of the corporation had been appointed by political influence as Judge of the Division in which these deer and the ranges, was situated. He knew that the Secretary who wrote the impudent letter was the son of the Judge of the Division. Both he and the native reindeer owners knew that back of the officers of the corporation was the court. They all knew that back of the judge was the U. S. jail at Nome. He saw that he had no hope of justice and soon resigned and went back to be the principal of high school in Kansas. The corporation was getting rid of the officials of the Reindeer Service who opposed them.

The native reindeer owners struggled at different times, till finally a petition was made to the Secretary, in 1929, that was given such notoriety that it compelled an inquiry to be made by Secretary Wilbur. His special representative made an investigation. He reported to the Secretary. The report was not published. The Secretary appointed a committee of Senator Kendrick,

Assistant Attorney Sissions, and Congressman Scott Leavitt, as a committee to consider the matter. They met in 1931. They found among other things, that the Buckland range should be vacated and the corporation reindeer be separated from the Buckland reindeer and be removed, and the range be left for the Eskimo reindeer owners. It was squalid justice.

Secretary Wilbur sent two special Agents to carry out the findings. They allowed themselves to be prevented, and returned to Washington and reported that it should be done.

The corporation President set himself against the vacation of the range, saying the herds could not be separated. He exposed his ignorance of the stock business in this, for it is a notorious fact of history that Jacob and Laban separated their herds in Bible time and it has continued to be done until the present day. But he succeeded in preventing it until the Government bailed him out of a unprofitable business for a corporation by purchasing his claimed holdings in 1940.

Old Soqueena, bent with age and running over the Arctic hills trying to protect his possessions in the reindeer he had earned by years of apprenticeship and care, wrote a letter as a final plea for a little justice.

Keewalik, Al., Dec. 19, 1940.

C. L. Andrews,

Dear Sir:

"They butcher some and sold some meat to Candle miners. . . . I haven't stopped the reindeer business since when first deer came to Alaska until now, but I am getting old and I never receive even 25 cents worth of deer expense (profit?) from what they sold since the herd joining Company. Although I'm working even though I am weak in body—I'm over 63 years old body is not like young man's strength.

"But I'm thinking, and I'd like to receive 5 or 10 deer worth or value after, Co. sold meat to miners. You know when an old white man getting old he would need his money. Same way with the deer. One who is getting old should use and get some money or things."

"Your Friend, Thomas Sikweena".

At some time before July 12, 1943, Thomas Sokweena, the old reindeer man who had worked some fifty years trying to have reindeer to comfort him in his old age, and to have something with which to raise his family—was called to his fathers. His son Hugh wrote me.

"We Buckland reindeer owners sign and sent petition to our Government through Diamond, and also sent you a copy, hoping both of you will help us in passing to the Secretary of the Interior. . . .

Since the old Man, Thomas Sokweena died I have not seen your Eskimo paper.

I am his first born son and used to write for him some years ago to you, also to Mr. Lopp.

Almost every former reindeer herder who owns more deer than others in Arctic region give up their hope from their deer the reindeer service begins to manage the reindeer business in Alaska.

Tho they paid herders in cash from the Government, yet the deer are not herded, and they should be taken care of or like used to be taken care of the main owners when you were here.

This makes old herders feel bad when they see that their deers go astray, destroyed by wolves, some starved by hard snow, used by the only herders and give to said owners very few and not enough clothing. Company takes all. . . ."

In this there is a good cross section of the feeling of the larger body of the Eskimo people in the reindeer work.

In 1923, the year before Sokweena was trapped into the Lomen Company he was wishing to get out of it with his deer and with the family take care of it instead of trusting them to hired herders who were not interested enough to take care of them, he owned 1068 reindeer. In the next year's count made under the handling Corporation, the account filed shows only 388 reindeer. There is no explanation of where the rest went. During the time the corporation ruled the herd, they butchered during most of the years, and rendered no accounts of the number butchered in each herd.

After the corporation ceased butchering, in 1937 the government took charge of the handling of the herd, and hired Eskimos who had few or no deer. It has operated just as Prof. Wiklund, late of Upsala University said in the letter published in THE ESKIMO, in Vol. 7, No. 1;

"The remoter the country of herding is, the more impossible it is to control the hired workmen, the oftener entire herds disappear, or are torn by wolves, etc., and all experience has shown; that it always goes in that way when the owner himself not follows the herd."

THE REINDEER RAN WILD

The history of the reindeer work in Alaska proves the truth of the statement of Prof. Wiklund. The discipline of the first 25 years of the reindeer management under the Bureau of Education was continued for another 15 years in many of the native herds. By 1930 this had been practically lost. The herds all over the range wandered at will in little bunches like caribou. The birds and animals of wild life flock to where food is plenty, like gamblers and thieves to a mining camp. There was no one to protect the scattered animals and they were an easy prey. The reindeer has but one fawn, usually. A well fed wolf

pair will produce six pups. The result was soon evident. The predators came from far and near. The big black and grey wolves were always on the range, more came from Canada, and the coyotes came from the States.

PROPER HERDING METHODS

Proper herding requires that the reindeer scatter enough to secure food, but not far enough that every deer cannot be seen by the herder and his dog. The wolf continually lurks under cover watching for stragglers. Herding cannot successfully be done without dogs. A dog can cover more ground than half a dozen men. When reindeer are accustomed to the herder and his dog, if a deer or a bunch starts to stray away too far, the dog is sent after them. As soon as the straying deer sees the dog coming they will run back to the herd, knowing the dog will leave as soon as they join the main bunch.

When the reindeer are not kept herd tame, as soon as they see a dog or man, they are likely to run away like caribou, and the natives call them caribou in derision.

It takes from 30 to 60 acres to keep a reindeer because of the sparse vegetation of the northern regions. The growth of the moss, which is the principal food in winter, is but $1/3$ to $1/2$ an inch a year. The northern tundra is frozen to unknown depths, and thaws but from six inches to a foot in summer. The snow at Point Barrow lies until the first week of June, and the frost and snow begins about September 1st. I have seen the ground white with snow on the 4th of July at Barrow. In winter the sun does not rise above the horizon for two months and ten days. Such lands will not keep many animals.

WOLVES

The Eskimo reindeer men tried to stop the inroads of the wolves, but the herds being scattered over ranges of twenty to fifty miles or more square, half a dozen packs might be working and he not encounter them. From April 1, 1938 to Apr. 1, 1939, on the Noatak and Kobuk region 156 wolves were killed by natives. This shows they tried to stop them.

VOTE FOR STATEHOOD

Vote Alaska a State, so she will have senators and representatives. They will count. Today your Delegate is like a man in a kayak with no paddle—he can get nowhere.

THE ESKIMO

C. L. ANDREWS, Editor and Publisher. Issued quarterly at 1734 Villard St., Eugene, Oregon. Published in the interest of the native, especially of the Eskimo and his reindeer industry. Sent free to those who are interested in the objects of the enterprise.

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THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Volume 11, No. 3

EUGENE, OREGON

July, 1944

LACK OF INFORMATION

The *Eskimo* is late in issuing on account of waiting for the result of the counts of the year 1943-1944. It was requested in June 1944 and the reply from the office at Juneau was that the request had been referred to Nome. No data has yet been received. It is hoped that it may be had in time for the October issue.

The Alaska Weekly of July 28th, 1944, states that Mr. Rood, of the Reindeer Service was at Fairbanks on his return to Nome from Juneau. This seems to be the 2nd airplane excursion of the year between these points. He reported the reindeer service to be in "particularly good condition and that there were in all estimated to be 120,000 adult reindeer and 40,000 fawns this spring divided among the four reindeer districts."

It may be recalled that in 1939 the Governor's Report stated that "Approximately 600,000 reindeer are distributed from Atka north to Point Barrow." This was an estimate.

The Burdick Report on his count of 1940 shows as follows:

Fisheries-St. Paul Island	1000
Native Owned	168950
Government Owned	83600

252550

From this a somewhat accurate idea may be had, the reliability of estimates of number of reindeer covering a range 1500 miles in length from Point Barrow to the Alaska Peninsula. The people interested in the reindeer industry of the Eskimos would be gratified to have some definite figures on the situation. The appropriation for 1943 is reputed to have been \$95879. This was certainly enough with which to make a count of some herds, and those, taken in comparison with 1942 would give a definite idea of a part.

The count of 23 herds in 1942, about half the herds was 67,795, and the estimate was, over all of 162,671 reindeer. This is another estimate. These two do not indicate much improvement other than the loss of five years fawn crop of fawns.

In 1916 there were 82151 reindeer counted, 83 herds. The appropriation was \$5000.

Why, with all their boasted improved scientific management, can't the Service make a showing of what it has, and the actual condition?

WHY BRING THAT MATTER UP?

In the October 2nd issue of Jessen's Weekly, 1943 Fairbanks, Alaska, appears a statement by a Mr. Pegues, concerning alleged "hap-hazard administrative and loss of interest, little progress was made at the beginning of the industry."

Mr. Pegues has evidently made little research in the history of the reindeer industry.

The first importation of reindeer was made on private subscription, Congress not having enough interest to appropriate funds. Sixteen reindeer were brought to Unalaska in 1891 to test whether that island was fit for reindeer. Assertions had been made that the animals would not thrive in America. They lived till they were killed, by accident and hunters.

Fighting Bob Evans, in his "A Sailor's Log" states at page 310; "At sea, June 4, 1892—had good breakfast today—boiled king salmon, potatoes, cold reindeer roast . . ."

Captain Evans was on an U. S. Ship, just up from Seattle. Where did he get that reindeer roast? It was 800 miles north to the reindeer Station at Teller.

In 1917 at Unalaska, the Deputy Collector of Customs and the Deputy Marshall, told me personally that the deer were mostly killed by hunters from ships, U. S. and other lying in the harbor. They disappeared, but not from "administration and lack of interest."

The first importation of any considerable amount was in 1892, of 171 reindeer, landed at Port Clarence at the reindeer station called Teller. This importation was purchased and landed at the expense of a subscription secured by Sheldon Jackson, from private parties in the East. There were 79 fawns. **Reindeer Report 1893, p. 30.**

By subscription there were trained herders brought from Norway. W. T. Lopp was made field superintendent.

For the next year \$6000 was appropriated by Congress. Buildings were constructed at the station. A corral was constructed.

For 1894 the appropriation was \$6000. Buildings were constructed, apprentices were chosen from the Eskimos, and were instructed. Every animal was herded, cared for, counted, every loss recorded, with the cause.

Distribution began. The first was 100 deer to the Congregational Church Mission at

Wales, of 100 reindeer on 1894 for distribution of the increase among the native herders and apprentices. This herd was to be under management of W. T. Lopp Missionary-teacher who went there in 1890. He remained till 1902, and in that year there were 905 reindeer in the herd.

The second distribution made was by 100 deer being loaned Charlie Antisarlook and his four brothers. Charlie was the first Eskimo trained as a herder. He had earned 12 deer before being given the loan, which he received in 1894. In 1897 he was required to return his loan, not being given five years as were the Laps and missions--through the parsimony of the reindeer superintendent. In 1898 he loaned his whole herd 135 reindeer to the Government to be driven to Barrow for relief of the ice-bound whalers.

In 1911 a complete record of the year is printed in the annual report at pages 81 et seq., showing in detail every owner of reindeer and the sex and number of each animal.

In 1914 the reindeer industry had increased to 37,828, owned as follows:

Government	4,413
Mission, for distribution	5,924
Lapps, Political scheme	10,007
Natives, for living and educational purposes	37,828
Total	57,872

This is from the records of the Reindeer Service of the Bureau of Education, printed by the Interior Department, Washington, D. C. Sheldon Jackson, General Agent of Education for Alaska was the man who secured the subscriptions to begin the movement and who was prominent in securing the appropriations to carry it on. W. T. Lopp was the principal man in securing the distribution and organizing field work of the industry, which was modeled on the work of the Norwegian and Swedish service in Lapland.

What is there about this record to justify the charge of hap-hazard administration and lack of interest? The total cost of the establishment to this time, 1914, had been by Government Appropriations, the sum of \$302,000. Lopp was the Chief of the Service in Seattle, and Walter Shields was Superintendent of the Northern District at Nome.

In 1916 the count shows 82,151 reindeer, which is more than the number actually counted in 1942. There were 837 herders, 58 apprentices, 85 herds.

The Bureau of Education was relieved of the oversight of the reindeer industry in Alaska in 1929, and it was placed in the hands of the Governor of Alaska. At that time the reindeer were estimated by the Governor to number:

Government	9,394
Native	300,049
White Owned	190,943
Lapp	39,439
Total June 30, 1929	599,825

The actual number was about 500,000 in the territory.

LOSSES IN THE REINDEER HERDS

A corporation was organized to break into the reindeer industry and to alienate the animals from the possession of the natives. Erroneous methods under claim of scientific management, as forming large herds, percentage marking, mavericking of herds, mixing of ownership white and native, depriving the native of the management of the herds he had built up, open-herding which became no care at all of the animals was introduced which induced the attacks of wolves on the unprotected animals followed. The substitution of inexperienced men for those who had successfully carried on the work, all these have nearly caused the ruin of the industry.

KIVALINA REINDEER HERD

The Kivalina reindeer herd was formed in 1905. Otpelle and Elektoona, both having served their term of apprenticeship among the first trained under the Bureau of Education, and having accumulated reindeer were assigned to that area, which is one of the best northern ranges. They took apprentices as required by the Rules and Regulations of the Department till in 1911 the herd had increased to 617 animals.

In 1923 the increasing herd had been divided into five separate herds, still handled under the original policy and practice of the Bureau, based on that of Norway, and bought by the first six herders from Lapland in 1894. They were known as Seveck's herd, Sokona's, Elektoona's, Otpelle's and Onalik's, from the principal owner in each herd. The largest was Onalik's and the total was between 4000 and 5000 head.

The unfortunate theory of large herds, as advocated by the Biological Survey "Open herding on large ranges to insure proper range use is the best method of handling a reindeer herd," and holding; "the cost of running large herds will be less in proportion, and will thus increase efficiency in control and economy in production," was held by the Survey. (Bulletin 1089, Dep. of Ag., Sept. 22, 1922 p. 30.)

The policy of percentage marking was adopted by the Lomen corporation in 1919, as shown by letter Carl J. Lomen to Chief herder Nelluka in that year, at Golovin. The Survey followed their lead.

This practice of creating a big herd was adopted by the Kivalina herd until it aggregated 42,000 in 1942. By that time the evil effects of these practices became evident, the herds began to lose the domestication of the first 25 years of the Bureau

management. They scattered, wandered away—the wolves, finding these thousands of unguarded animals, began their frightful slaughter. A well fed wolf pair will litter from five to ten pups. The reindeer fawns but one. The wolf kills to live and he slaughters out of pure love of destruction. In 1937 there were but 13000 counted in Kivalina herd. The Burdick Count showed only 5,875 in 1940. The next year the number fell to 3660, of which there were 857 of Point Hope deer and 44 Kotzebue reindeer in with the Kivalina ownership, and only 2759 in the Kivalina mark. This was less than there were in 1923.

The herd is now in the hands of Chester Seveck, the owner of a herd of his own in former days. He marked 564 fawns in his herd on 1870 reindeer does, which is a good percentage. Some herds in the wolf ravage got only one half of one per cent.

Seveck is one of the best, if not the best, reindeer man in Alaska. He knows more of reindeer than any white man in America. He will gradually build up his herd. He will this year cut out the Point Hope reindeer and send them home. That is good reindeer practice. That is the law, one which the Lomen Corporation violated every year of their invasion.

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE REINDEER INDUSTRY

The general report of the condition of the reindeer industry is to say the least; most discouraging. Reports are that the reindeer are nearly exterminated south of the Kuskowkim. The wolves have moved to the north of the river and are ravaging the herds there. The Golovin herd is practically gone. The White Mountain herd the same. Rumors are that a search for deer at the Nome-Quartz Creek herd was a failure, the Elim herd is acknowledged gone. There are but about four herds properly taken care of, Kivalina, two herds at Barrow, the Nellarook herd—fragments of Shaktolik, Bonanza and Koyuk herds.

CHESTER SEVECK—THE REINDEER MAN

Chester Seveck is a wise man for his opportunities. He spent his boyhood in the remote village of Kivalina, about 100 miles inside the Arctic Circle. No English was spoken in the village, beyond a few words of the whaler lingo, picked up from an occasional passing trader or whaler. The first school was established in the winter of 1905-6, with 71 pupils, the teacher was Mrs. A. Walton.

Seveck grew up an outdoor boy. He learned the lore of the trails, and the ways of the seal and walrus hunter, he was in the whaling crew for the bowhead whale that yielded the whalebone of commerce. In earlier years before he could ply a paddle

in the oomiak—which he did about as early as he could reach over the side—he learned a little English and a slight foundation in writing and arithmetic.

Seveck had a chum, and they were bosom friends as long as this friend lived. His name was Joe Sokonik. Joe fell on the ice at an early age and partly dislocated his spine. He never walked after. No surgeons were within a hundred miles. Even common medicines were not to be had north of Nome until 1907, when the ravages of measles, smallpox, diptheria and other diseases, caused Chief Lopp to secure for each school a supply of medicines, there being no drugstore north of Nome.

On his return from his hunting excursions to the whaling grounds of Pt. Hope, Seveck would go to Anarok's igloo, where his friend Sokonik lay helpless in his deerskins and blankets, and the two would work at the problems of arithmetic, for that was of interest in the growing herds of reindeer, the increase of fawns and other questions involving numbers. Sokonik became competent to teach the village school during World War No. I. Seveck became a reindeer man—one of the best.

WOLF KILLING PLANS

The air is full of wolf killing plans and has been for several years. The latest is an air patrol from Point Barrow to the Alaska Peninsula with an airplane.

Wolves were in Alaska when the reindeer came. If the owners had not herded and guarded the reindeer the first herd would have been eaten up forty years ago. If the Lapps and samoyds and others in Europe and Asia had not taken care of their herds and killed the wolves they would have starved thousands of years ago. Three wolves were killed at Barrow in 1899. Wolves killed dogs for the Russian trader Zagoskin in 1842. In 1916 bounties were paid in Alaska to amount of \$580. The bounties increased till in 1922 they were \$3390, and then the predators got plenty. Harlan Gubser, high Mogul of the wolf killers went up to Alaska in 1937 to look into the wolf killing. What effect was produced? One more man had a summer excursion at the expense of Uncle Sam.

The latest fad is hunting with airplane. In 1937 Archie Ferguson killed 5 from his plane. A few months ago an official of Nome is reported to have taken a hunting party wolf hunting by plane. Who paid for the plane is not known but likely Uncle Sam who is the goat when money is to be spent at present. It is said that 9 wolves were bagged. Fine excursion, not known who collected the bounty—or who paid for the fun. The number of wolves does not seem to decrease, notwithstanding the bounty and the joy parties in planes.

In northern Finland there were about 1000 reindeer killed by wolves in 1939, and there are still wolves in Lapland. They said nothing about using an airplane—they take care of their money and pay their debts.

When the reindeer were brought to Alaska they were herded night and day for years. In some of the herds herding was done faithfully for more than thirty years. When it slacked, the wolves, finding easy prey, no one to watch—came in and fed well and plenty of deer to eat they increased by five to eight or more each year.

The remedy is to stop the half Lomen, half communist, plan of the Government taking "CONTROL" of all the deer of the natives, expropriating the reindeer and letting them go to pieces and ruin as they have for about fourteen years since the Governor, and later the Secretary of the Interior by a law based on nine eliminations and a rider—destroyed all native enterprise.

Give back to the native his property, his reindeer, earned and built up by forty years of hardship in the hardest land under the United States Rule. Let him follow his own herd and protect them, and he will keep the wolf down. If he does not do it, he will lose his reindeer. This will be just as well as for the Secretary of the Interior to lose them as is and has been for the past ten or more years.

In 1936 a protest was made by the Nome-Douglas Reindeer Association against just this kind of procedure. It made the statement, that, it was "The ultimate placing of the native where he would be a slave to whoever is in charge of the reindeer." And it said other things, pertinent to the situation.

Congress has provided bountifully. The industry should have been put on its feet again years ago. Compare it with the up-building of the industry from 1915 to 1918, at \$5000 a year. Those years show what can be done—and was done.

The way to disprove wrong reports is for the Reindeer Service to issue a report showing the number of reindeer in every herd

counted, male, female, fawn and maverick with total. The ESKIMO will gladly publish it and acknowledge anything in which these statements err. It only wants facts to be shown and justice done to these reindeer owning people who have been robbed of their property for that past thirty years, from 1915 to 1944. Their reindeer that they had earned have been taken without reason during those years or part of them, and it is time it be righted.

In 1929 I filed statements showing that about ten thousand native owned reindeer were held year after year and every bit of the increase or profit extracted by a corporation. My protest was not presented to the Committee appointed to make an investigation. Even the partial justice of the committee was permitted to be set aside and the owners have not yet got control of their property. It is a shame that such a thing exists in our land.

The following herds have disappeared. The Broad Pass Herd, Government managed. The Lomen Kotzebue herd, claiming one time 125,000 and which was probably of about 10,000. The Barter Island herd, native owned. The Kokrines herd, Takpuk's herd at the Colville River, an Iliamna herd, two Hooper Bay herds, the Kotzebue native herd, the Bonanza herd, the Shaktolik herd, the Good News Bay herds and others south of the Kuskokwim.

The Nunivak herd needs attention or it will be overstocked and starve or develop anthrax which Alaska has so far escaped.

In 1917 in company with Walter Shields, Superintendent for the Northern District I saw nearly every herd from St. Michael to Barrow, to St. Lawrence Island and to Siberia. In 1939 I went from St. Michaels to Barrow and saw not a live reindeer.

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Vol. 11, No. 4.

EUGEUE, OREGON

October, 1944

The report of the count and condition of the Reindeer Industry of the Eskimo in Alaska, 1943-44, is still not to be had, at least not received in time for this issue.

A rumor has it that Mr. Lawrence J. Palmer has been sent to Alaska in an advisory capacity, to inspect the industry.

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The first thing is to separate the mixture into separate herds, getting each of the old company herds of reindeer into the herd where it belonged before the mixing and the Unit herd management.

This can be done by having cutting out corrals at each corral outlet. About three or four holding corrals, arranged so each separate herd of marked deer can be turned into its separate corral at the swing gate outlet. Have one corral for unmarked deer. After the herd has been worked, then have the number of unmarked deer and the number of unmarked deer and the number of each separated herd, and pro rate the unmarked by percentage.

By doing this the herds will be separated as they have not been for twenty or more years—some for 30.

PREVIOUSLY TAMING THE HERDS

In order to properly handle the deer in the separating corrals, it will be necessary for each range to round up all the deer on that range, and hold them for two or three months then they will be accustomed to being handled. Three months of continuous handling in a herd will tame them.

Marking of Fawns

To separate the herds and not have the

fawns mixed between different herd marks, it will be well to have the marking done as it was done in the early days of the industry, by doing it in the field, by lassoing. That is the way every herd was handled and the fawns marked for more than thirty years in most of the herds except the ones influenced by the Corporation and the Biological Survey.

After the herds are separated, the owners can decide how many belong to each stockholder, if they wish to have individual ownership, which is the surest manner of getting the reindeer properly taken care of, and put the mark of the owner on the number he is entitled to, and on the fawns by the mother.

FIX THE HERD BOUNDARIES

Have each herd put on its own range, and make a penalty for allowing deer to stray. The old law of, when a stray appears at a herd to let the owner take it home as soon as possible, paying any charges due the herd where it has stayed. If the owner does not appear at next round-up and pay his costs and take the deer, then the deer is to be sold by the nearest U. S. Commissioner, the costs paid from proceeds and the balance, less costs of sale, paid to the owner. This was the law in the 1913 Compiled Laws, and is based on the Laws of Oregon, a stock raising state whose laws are based on experience.

OWNER WILL CARE FOR HIS PROPERTY

If the owner will not care for his property, it cannot be expected that hired men will do it. The late Prof. Wiklund, the best authority on reindeer in Sweden at the time of his death, wrote that; it is the experience that the herd will be lost if the owner follow not his herd.

This is just as true in Alaska as in Sweden.

REPAY LOSSES CAUSED BY ALLOWING CORPORATIONS TO TAKE NATIVE OWNED REINDEER

The Government should reimburse from the reindeer that it has remaining from the purchase of non-native reindeer, the number of reindeer that the corporation took from them when the herds were taken out of native hands. That will be cheaper than hiring the herding done, and it has been demonstrated for years that hired herders will not care for the reindeer.

THE ESKIMO

C. L. Andrews, Editor and Publisher.

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Sent free to those who are interested in the objects of the enterprise.

Comp. of
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In order to properly handle the deer in the separating corrals, it will be necessary for each range to round up all the deer on that range, and hold them for two or three months then they will be accustomed to being handled. Three months of continuous handling in a herd will tame them.

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fawns mixed between different herd marks, it will be well to have the marking done as it was done in the early days of the industry, by doing it in the field, by lassoing. That is the way every herd was handled and the fawns marked for more than thirty years in most of the herds except the ones influenced by the Corporation and the Biological Survey.

After the herds are separated, the owners can decide how many belong to each stockholder, if they wish to have individual ownership, which is the surest manner of getting the reindeer properly taken care of, and put the mark of the owner on the number he is entitled to, and on the fawns by the mother.

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Have each herd put on its own range, and make a penalty for allowing deer to stray. The old law of, when a stray appears at a herd to let the owner take it home as soon as possible, paying any charges due the herd where it has stayed. If the owner does not appear at next round-up and pay his costs and take the deer, then the deer is to be sold by the nearest U. S. Commissioner, the costs paid from proceeds and the balance, less costs of sale, paid to the owner. This was the law in the 1913 Compiled Laws, and is based on the Laws of Oregon, a stock raising state whose laws are based on experience.

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This is just as true in Alaska as in Sweden.

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ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 11, No. 4.

EUGEUE, OREGON

October, 1944

The report of the count and condition of the Reindeer Industry of the Eskimo in Alaska, 1943-44, is still not to be had, at least not received in time for this issue.

A rumor has it that Mr. Lawrence J. Palmer has been sent to Alaska in an advisory capacity, to inspect the industry.

Mr. Palmer is the man who, during his service with the Biological Survey, and as such Government Officer, and ethically bound to see that natives have at least reasonable advice from a government officer, sat in "Council with them" according to his personal statement, and advised that the natives of Buckland, submit to the taking of the Buckland herd of reindeer, which was under the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department, in the management of the Bureau of Education, away from the natives and under domination of the Lomen & Company.

The next year, on his official boat conveyed the officer of the same corporation and his party to the Buckland herd to attend the working of the said herd by the said corporation.

He served for years in the Biological Survey in the reindeer work and systematically assisted the corporation in disrupting the regime of the Bureau of Education, and aiding in making the changes in the policy of handling the reindeer that have given rise to the disastrous condition that prevails. He does not seem to be a proper person to have anything to do with any property belonging to the natives. The present unfortunate condition will only be promoted by his presence, it appears. The natives are specially advised to note this action.

THE PRESENT DAY ESKIMO

The old time Eskimo of the North has about gone. The white man and the white mans' government have nearly finished him. Here is the opinion of one of that one generation removed from the Ipanee. He lived in a part of the old days and grew up in the time of reindeer herd building. He worked his way to a start, and built up a herd through the constructive years to lose it by the abandonment of the old methods of management.

"This part of the country old and young Eskimo natives change living. They all want to live easy ways living, and give up

to soon and all in quick. They all forget old time ways, hunting the wild animals without guns. They all even do not know how to hunt the different wild game . . . they want easy ways to catch them . . . they all want to take the job for big wages now with the stuff with high prices . . . A good Alaska native are tough, know the country bad and stormy weather. He can stand and fight against the bad weather with little food. He never get lost any place. He can make good effort and comfort and safe place when big storm come. He knows the deep water and thin ice, when traveling in fog and snow drifting weather."

MR. LOMEN'S OPINION OF THE ESKIMO

Mr. Carl J. Lomen, President of the Lomen Reindeer Corporation, offered his opinion of the Eskimo at the Kendrick Reindeer Committee Hearings in 1931. He said: "All Eskimos are honest. It is the white influence that comes in that makes trouble. An Eskimo is primarily honest." (Kendrick Hgs. p. 200).

Then Mr. Lomen also said that: "The mentality of the Eskimo is about that of a fourteen year old person—maybe that is a little high—say twelve years. In certain lines they are a very capable people, but when it comes to handling a herd they have no idea of the value of property." (Kendrick Hearings 1931, p. 92.)

Mr. Lomen went back to Washington and got on an Interdepartmental Committee, together with his Colleague Leonard Baldwin, of New York, attorney and capitalist, to endeavor to get in control of the reindeer of this native people who were building up herds of reindeer in the Arctic—trying to take candy from a kid.

A set of reindeer rules was proposed, and a PROPOSED PLAN OF CONTROL of the products of the natives. (See Hearings Kendrick Reindeer Committee, p. 150.)

These reindeer rules were framed to favor the Lomen Reindeer Corporations. Mr. Lomen says at page 41 of above mentioned Hearings, "Those were written by myself, Carl J. Lomen, President of the Lomen Reindeer Corporation."

Then he proposed that the men in the work be "trained in animal industry".

The Reindeer work had been under the

Bureau of Education in the Interior Department since its inception. It has been under the Superintendents of the Bureau, and as local field superintendents, the teachers at the herds, where there were reindeer herds, were in charge. These teachers and superintendents were the only men who came in direct contact with the reindeer work, except Lapps who came to herd, and instruct the natives in the methods of the industry in Europe. The natives served a four-year apprenticeship in the work to become herders and take charge of a herd. They were paid in reindeer by the year, beginning at six deer the first year.

This system was followed for forty years, and had been successful as is shown by there being nearly six hundred thousand reindeer turned to the Governor of Alaska in 1929, according to his report for 1929.

Mr Burlew, assistant to the Secretary of the Interior, apparently following the suggestion of Mr. Lomen, on the hearings on the Appropriation Bill of the Interior Department for 1933, page 970, demanded the discharge of these school teachers from the service. He stated "They have had the assistance of school teachers, but we want to get away from that."

The Department acted accordingly. A man from a cattle ranch was appointed, under the Governor, to carry on the reindeer industry of the natives in cooperation with the designs of the corporation. The herds of the Seward Peninsula, a region nearly as large as the state of Maryland was combined in one immense range, containing 15 herds, and they were mixed. They talked "Scientific Methods", and started to dominate the whole northwest coast. The result is shown in the nearly complete wreck of the native industry. The Government bailed them out of their scrape but let the native industry in a plight in which the native can do nothing. His deer were scattered as a cattle man might say, "From —— to breakfast." He has no means to collect them. The Government paid a man from another department to count the herds. All control was taken from the natives after they had cared for the herds they earned by a hard apprenticeship, and bred and cared for them for fifty years. Now people who do not understand say, "That the Eskimo has lost all interest in the reindeer." (Kendrick Hgs. p. 150.)

DISTRIBUTION AND HERD MANAGEMENT OF REINDEER

In a booklet issued by the Alaska Planning Council, at Juneau, Alaska, in 1931, are two incorrect and misleading statements. The first is as follows:

"Lapps and missions obtained loans of breeding reindeer stock under agreements which entitled them to retain the increase therefrom."

The agreements with missions does not appear to allow the sale of female reindeer at any time "except such as are necessary for the establishment of herds for native herders at the end of their five years' apprenticeship."

There appears to have been no law allowing the sale of female deer to any one except the Government and the natives, at any time. (Wickersham, Kendrick Com. Hgs. 1931).

The second statement is misleading and incorrect. It states:

Eighty-six per cent of them (native owners) long ago manifested their discouragement with private control of their own reindeer, and the responsibilities of work and expense incident to tending small private herds, by placing their reindeer into large associations."

The natives, very few of them, or none, manifested their discouragement when they agreed to this placing their deer into large herds under company management. It was urged on them, first by the corporation organized to break into the native industry, and to try to get into control of the native property. It commenced by the corporation taking into its herds reindeer of natives at Golovin, Teller and Buckland, against the protests of the natives who had held their reindeer on lands which were absorbed by corporation herds and by which the native was urged to join the corporation herd, or to abandon his home lands and seek for distant unoccupied lands. (Letter Lomen Agent at Teller, 1920.)

The Bureau of Education, which was given the management of the reindeer industry of the natives, was opposed to this, and asked suit be brought by the Interior Department, to determine its jurisdiction over the management of the reindeer. By official manipulation and financial chicanery, this suit was delayed for five years, during which the native reindeer remained under corporation control with very little of even the report of number or management.

The suit, at end of five years was thrown out of court without trial, and the Department of Justice issued a paper refusing the native the right of further action. This appears to have been an open violation of the rights of the native, and left his property in the hands of the corporation for about twenty years, during which time all the profits and much of the original capital was absorbed by the Corporation.

Both the Corporation, and the Biological Survey which came to Alaska under the appropriation made, providing it should work in cooperation with the Bureau of Education, advocated the formation of large herds and company management. They influenced the natives to join the herds of the Corporation.

The natives generally opposed the new idea but were influenced to agree to it. The ruinous policies of the Corporation and the Biological Survey, such as large herds without proper control by herding at all times, have nearly destroyed the industry. The reindeer have been reduced since 1929, when the Governor took charge, from 500,000 to a count of 67,795 reindeer, and an estimated 160,175 running on the open range, largely unmarked.

REINDEER MANAGEMENT

The reindeer industry has been going to pieces for nearly 15 years. It had been attacked for about 15 years, and the men best acquainted and experienced had been forced out of the service, or had died. Men who wished to get control of the industry and make serfs of the native reindeer owners, attacked in Alaska, and intrigued in Washington, to get control. A corporation had put a million and a half into trying to get financial control of it. Politics thought its plum, the Biological Survey coveted the management under the Government, and went in with the Corporation to get control. Jointly they peddled and practiced open herding which meant to run reindeer like cattle were handled in Wyoming in the Seventies and Eighties. The forming of big herds, and the practice of mixing native and corporation herds was promoted by percentage marking of fawns—instead of by the mark of the mother—which had been the universal manner of determining the possession of all fawns of livestock. Would a man with a blooded Jesery herd run his herd with a herd of scrub range cattle and let the herd be marked by percentage of the females? Half his blooded calves would be marked to the long horned mothers. Herds were rounded up and only one-third of what was on the range, in some corporation herds, were brought in. The rest of the herd stayed out and bred mavericks—then there was a scramble for the mavericks. One corporation herd got 715 mavericks on 101 female deer. In 1926 suddenly appeared 633 female in Buckland part native herd, from Kotzebue, corporation herd. The rule was that mavericks belonged to range where found. The Kotzebue herd allegedly had 173% on the females of mavericks. The corporation claimed mavericks from Buckland on these females at 135%, found on Buckland range and took them. The 633 females looked like a hand picked bunch of childless widows. No males of any age accompanied them. The Corporation then demanded and took, not only mavericks, but fawns on both hand-picked females introduced, and also on the mavericks claimed. It drove out 1980 animals on the 633 alleged estrays.

This is the record of the case. (Lomen Report, Buckland 1926).

This was a part of the manner of demoralizing the native herds and disheartening the owners.

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE REINDEER INDUSTRY

In 1891 the Bureau of Education began the reindeer industry, and for the natives of Alaska. In 1914 the corporation

~~In 1891 the Bureau of Education began the industry and began taking herds by various questionable methods.~~

In 1921, the Biological Survey of the Agricultural Department began Biological work. Instead of strictly following their biological endeavors they butted into the reindeer management.

In 1929, the industry that had been established by the Interior Department, and put under the Bureau of Education, had at a cost of about \$450,000 built an industry which was turned over to the Governor of Alaska with 599,825 animals according to the Governor's Report of 1929. Of these 300,049 belonged to the natives, 9,354 belonged to Government. 190,943 had been alienated by whites, and 39,439 had fallen into the hands of Lapps who had pried into the industry under the project of a colony to be established to be a model for reindeer raising.

Fourteen years have passed, since the Governor took charge of the reindeer industry. The Government has spent about a million and a quarter in expense of management and the purchase of the reindeer alienated from the original intent of the introduction of the animals. The herds are mixed so badly by the Unit Herd system on the Seward Peninsula that no man in the whole peninsula a hundred miles wide and two hundred miles in length, approximately, knows how many deer he has or where they are to be found. About fifteen herds are in utter confusion. The corporation inflicted the Unit management on the Government, the Government imposed it on the native, and in addition took all control over the herds of the native that he had built up for forty years. The natives carried their herds through the DEPRESSION with no Government aid and weathered it out. The corporation asked \$750,000 in a loan to carry themselves through, and got \$130,000.

The first discouragement of the natives in the industry was the mission sale of the birthright of their native dependents, of the increase of the reindeer loaned by the Government to the missions to be distributed to the natives. This, added to the Corporation taking possession of the lands that native reindeer grazed upon, and giving them the alternative of join our herd-

or-else, get out—leave homes and look for range.

Another discouragement was the Lapps, who continually were an obstacle and kept pulling sharp tricks on them. For an example of obstacle, there was Klementsén, who was continually jumping around with his deer between Golovin and Unalakleet, forcing his herd into native ranges to the disgust of the native owners. Next the Lapps crowded the natives out of their markets. Niliima took most of the Kotzebue market. He sold 30 deer the last year he stayed on Kotzebue range. He stayed and kept his deer, and the deer paid to his Lapp herders, on the Kotzebue-Mission-Native range from 1906 to 1910. Four years. And in addition he sent his herders over into the Buckland range to butcher for the Candle market which properly belonged to the Buckland and Deering ranges. Then he took his deer out of the Kotzebue herd, native-mission, put up the Lap fence to cut off all the range south of that fence and east of the Buckland range, penning the Kotzebue-native herd on the little Kotzebue Peninsula, or to go across Hotham Inlet and pasture north of the river and inlet.

The native formed the associated herds mostly at the advice of the white interest, the Bureau of Education finally adopting that plan, against the judgment of many of its employees. I know, for I was in the Service—and was not in favor of it.

HOW TO STRAIGHTEN OUT THE REINDEER CHAOS

The first thing is to separate the mixture into separate herds, getting each of the old company herds of reindeer into the herd where it belonged before the mixing and the Unit herd management.

This can be done by having cutting out corrals at each corral outlet. About three or four holding corrals, arranged so each separate herd of marked deer can be turned into its separate corral at the swing gate outlet. Have one corral for unmarked deer. After the herd has been worked, then have the number of unmarked deer and the number of unmarked deer and the number of each separated herd, and pro rate the unmarked by percentage.

By doing this the herds will be separated as they have not been for twenty or more years—some for 30.

PREVIOUSLY TAMING THE HERDS

In order to properly handle the deer in the separating corrals, it will be necessary for each range to round up all the deer on that range, and hold them for two or three months then they will be accustomed to being handled. Three months of continuous handling in a herd will tame them.

Marking of Fawns

To separate the herds and not have the

fawns mixed between different herd marks, it will be well to have the marking done as it was done in the early days of the industry, by doing it in the field, by lassoing. That is the way every herd was handled and the fawns marked for more than thirty years in most of the herds except the ones influenced by the Corporation and the Biological Survey.

After the herds are separated, the owners can decide how many belong to each stockholder, if they wish to have individual ownership, which is the surest manner of getting the reindeer properly taken care of, and put the mark of the owner on the number he is entitled to, and on the fawns by the mother.

FIX THE HERD BOUNDARIES

Have each herd put on its own range, and make a penalty for allowing deer to stray. The old law of, when a stray appears at a herd to let the owner take it home as soon as possible, paying any charges due the herd where it has stayed. If the owner does not appear at next round-up and pay his costs and take the deer, then the deer is to be sold by the nearest U. S. Commissioner, the costs paid from proceeds and the balance, less costs of sale, paid to the owner. This was the law in the 1913 Compiled Laws, and is based on the Laws of Oregon, a stock raising state whose laws are based on experience.

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If the owner will not care for his property, it cannot be expected that hired men will do it. The late Prof. Wiklund, the best authority on reindeer in Sweden at the time of his death, wrote that; it is the experience that the herd will be lost if the owner follow not his herd.

This is just as true in Alaska as in Sweden.

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FEB 21 1945

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ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 12, No. 1

EUGENE, OREGON

January, 1945

The thanks of the ESKIMO are due to Mr. Don C. Foster, General Superintendent of the Office of Indian Affairs, Alaska Indian Service, showing as follows:

REINDEER DATA

For year ending December 31, 1943

Station	Estimated Reindeer on Range
Akuluruk	2,000
Akitak	2,500
Atka	1,500
Barrow	2,300
Bering Unit Herds:	
(a) Allockeok	500
(b) Deering	12,000
(c) Igloo	1,000
(d) Inland	1,000
(e) Nuglunuktuk	1,600
(f) Shishmaref	5,000
(g) Teller	300
(h) Wales	150
Bethel (Johnson R)	15,000
Brower	900
Buckland	3,000
Egavik	400
Ekwok	400
Esxholtd	6,000
Golovin	1,200
Halkett	900
Hooper Bay	1,300
Kivalina	1,000
Naknek	2,100
Noatak	2,200
Nularak	400
Nome	200
Nunivak	23,000
Pilot Point (Ugashik)	1,500
Point Hope	1,100
Priblif Islands	2,000
St. Lawrence Island	15,000
St. Michael	700
Selawik	3,000
Shungnak	300
Tanunuk (Nelson Island)	3,500
Umnak	2,000
Unalakleet	800
Wainwright	959
At large—Estimated	10,000

128,700

Mr. Foster manifested an active interest in the industry and a wish to get it back into its former prosperous condition. He notes the difficulty of getting capable men,

and that the war wages are such that, the reindeer work offers no inducements for a man to go out to herd reindeer.

Longshoring is a picnic beside reindeer handling in bitter winter weather. If one of the ordinary young fellows, untrained, or careless, goes, he lies in camp, and "guesses" the deer are all right. The herd is not kept together, and the wolves safely and unopposed, killing them.

The owner, one who has worked his apprenticeship at careful work and as the first apprentices did, six deer the first year, eight the next etc., knew what they were worth, and he stayed out all night.

The condition of herds in 1898, and in 1930 to 1935 is shown by the difference in the drives to Point Barrow in 1898 and the drive to mouth of the Mackenzie in 1929. The first was started on the trail in less than 10 days, drove 700 miles in 56 days, started with 448 deer, wolves got one, 30 were left at Point Hope to start a new herd, drivers fed on the meat, meat was supplied to the dog team and men of Jarvis' party traveling separately, and it delivered at Barrow March 30, 1898, 382 animals.

The drive of 1929 to 1935 from Kotzebue to Richards Island was from September to December 26, 1929, outfitting it had 3400 at starting, dropped 5 crops of fawns enroute, and delivered 2370. The distance was about 1200 miles.

The proper way to handle reindeer is to have herds so the whole herd can be seen at any time any day. The report should show the number of females, males, fawns, and mavericks if any. A well kept herd will have no mavericks or estrays. Estrays should be sent to the owners herd at first opportunity. No man will honestly want strays in his herd.

The Eskimo was doing as well as any ordinary community of whites would have done under similar conditions. They were overpowered, their herds were taken out of their hands, and their lands were taken, in four of the principal key points of the first places occupied by reindeer herds. The herders found herds already established doing well under the care of the natives. These were taken between 1915 to 1922. They were held by Lomen Company. The corporation employed Laps brought by the Government

\$ 130,000

till the Interior Department changed the appropriation act and later purchased the non-native held reindeer, and the equipment. The pilferers were bailed out of "imminent bankruptcy." The corporation rode through the "depression" by sale of stock shares to the people, and by the loan of \$1,320,000 from the RFC.

The natives kept their herds alive with no financial assistance, in spite of their demoralization by big herds mixing, a whole unit in one herd—about 15 separate herds and which were mixed by white man's theories. Each of these herds had more deer than it was taking care of.

The Unit herd was the proposition of Carl Lomen in the PROPOSED PLAN presented to the Kendrick Committee in 1931. The native owners were not invited to that committee. They fought the Unit Herd proposition from 1931 to the time the law was passed taking the "CONTROL" of their deer from them. Then it was over, and the theories of Lomen corporation and Biological Survey were adopted.

When the Governor took charge of the Reindeer industry in 1929, he reported 599,825 reindeer, of which the natives owned 300,049. The corporation with \$1,500,000 owned or HELD 47,794 deer counted. (Report Governor Parks, 1929, p. 77)

Which or who had succeeded, the Corporation or the native? The corporation had used about a million and a half dollars. The native had started flat footed, supported himself and family and with all the pilfering and sharp practice was doing as well as he could with little market or means of reaching one.

THE ESKIMO BLAMED FOR THE DOWNFALL OF THE REINDEER INDUSTRY

It is popular since the disaster to the reindeer industry for people to point to the Eskimo as the one to blame. He is not to blame. He did the best that he could. It is to be wondered that he didn't get out his Winchester rifle and go gunning. Almost any white man treated as many of these Eskimos were treated, would have got out his shooting irons.

The Lomen Corporation had a way of taking a herd from the mixed herd at Buckland and driving it to Golovin to butcher. They tried two drives, without separating the native deer from the drive, or reporting any killed at Golovin.

Finally a man sent to Buckland who had the sand to say to the reindeer men, — "Don't let them drive till they make some arrangements about your deer in the drive."

The Eskimos promptly went out with their rifles and formed a picket line across the trail and said "Settle for our deer before you go. The corporation settled by taking

two Buckland natives on the drive to check up the number of native deer driven. These checkers got 200 deer or about, from that drive. Whether it was all there were is a question, for the herd driven from Buckland and Lomen was nearly equal at times. It had strange fluctuations at times.

A brief history of one herd — the Buckland — will be given to show the treatment handed out to these natives. Had it been white range men, they would have got out their guns, and said — "You run this herd through the chute and swing gate out our deer and you take your deer to — out of here or there will be something done right here."

But the native knew he had no more chance than the cat in shoe without claws. So the corporation put it over with the help of Mr. Palmer, of the Biological Survey.

LIBERTY AND THE BUCKLAND ESKIMOS

Our national pride is FREEDOM and LIBERTY.

The Eskimo people are citizens of the United States. They serve in our armies. They have property rights — or should have equal to other citizens. They have lived south of Escholtz Bay, and east of the Kee-walik River since before a white man had a habitation or a name in Alaska. They are a peaceable race and the white man took advantage of them.

In 1911 reindeer were brought to the Buckland range by Thomas Sokweena, who was assigned to that range on recommendation of Chief W. T. Lopp and the report of the herds for that year shows the herd as 407 reindeer with nine owners. Later Hadley's herd appeared with 532 reindeer as is shown by the official Educational Report for 1914.

In 1917, Hatta Bros. Lapps, came from the range to the eastward, with no permission of either the District Superintendent or the Local Superintendent of reindeer. They began to intrude upon and mix with the native owned herds.

The natives protested against this action as a violation of their rights. The District Superintendent protested to Hatta Bros. and they promised to move on, saying they were delayed in moving their herd. But they remained, and between 1919 and 1921 Lapps Hatta, sold to Lomen & Co., a corporation.

Lomen & Co. took possession of the range in 1921 and the Native owned reindeer, owned by Sokweena and Hadley and others, in absolute violation of all rights of property and holding of range, they being there by permission of the superintendent and as primitive occupants of the land.

Lomen & Co. rounded up the herd and were going to mark. The Natives were meeting and discussing in Kazyga fashion, as the old time Eskimos do. A Biological Sur-

vey man, employee, Mr. L. J. Palmer, Chief Biologist, sat with them and without the knowledge of the District Superintendent of the district and began to assume authority. Later he wrote the Lomens, the Buckland unit, was occupied by three herds each occupying different sections of the Buckland range or unit had mixed, and a joint roundup was in progress. Delay in handling the reindeer for marking was occasioned by objections as to methods and the question of separation on the part of the native owners led by John Hadley. "No Bureau of Education was present and therefore as a Government representative I was requested to sit in Council with the natives" wrote Mr. Palmer to Mr. Lomen in an effort to thresh out differences and allow the roundup work to proceed. "Under the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department the superintendent was in charge. The corporation wanted the herds to be held as one herd, subject to Corporation management, and that the marking be done by percentage, instead of by the owner of the mother as had been done by the reindeer service. Some details of this have already been given.

The natives objected to both, they wanted the reindeer separated to each ownership, and the fawns to be marked by the mother's mark.

Mr. Palmer appears to have used his influence as a Government officer of the Biological Survey. He had no authority to put the herds into one herd as desired by the corporation, and to mark the fawns by percentage of the fawns in number to the females. This would put the whole herd in the management of the Lomen & Co. corporation. This was done, and the herd passed under the domination of the Corporation, and the owners became practically the serfs of the corporation, and through the influence of the officer of the Biological Survey. (Letter of, L. J. Palmer, Senior Biologist, to Mr. Carl Lomen, May 6th, 1932.) For twenty years the natives protested.

The natives were being forced into a form of slavery to the Lomen & Co. Corporation, that continued until the corporation was bailed out by the Government from their benevolent undertaking of building an industry of the reindeer of the natives. Some of the details of this annexation have been given, showing the treatment of Mr. Anderson in the case.

In 1923 Mr. Palmer appears to have attended the marking of the Buckland by the corporation, and on the Biological Survey boat "Hazel", and on his boat was Alfred J. Lomen, he also had the wife and sister of Mr. Lomen on boards as guests, according to Nome Nugget.

In 1924 the Lomen Corporation charged the Buckland Reindeer company the sum of \$2,174.55 for the handling of the herd so

taken away from them. Of this Sokweena contributed the sum of \$965.24. He was credited with \$56.25 for sundry service.

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Abraham Lincoln Okaylook;
My Kotzebue Friend:

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I am sorry you people lost your deer. You were not treated just right by Nilima in the first place. He kept his deer there four years longer than his time. He got the deer loan in 1901 and his time ran out in 1906. He stayed till 1910, and pastured your range. In 1917 it was eaten into the ground. The bushes back of the school house were trimmed of leaves as high as a deer could reach. He hired Lapps to herd when all the herding should have been done by Eskimo apprentices. He butchered every other year and kept the market supplied with his deer, he killed 149 deer between 1908 and 1911, it should have been the market for your deer. He put in the Lap fence at the Circle, to fence your herd in. He had no right to do that. The Kotzebue herd was all kept out at Nebaktuktilik and south by Nilima some years. That range should have been yours, then you would not have had to take your deer across the wide flats of Hotham Inlet to the Noatak Hills. You could have brought your deer right down to Blossom Cape to the Sadie Creek corral, and you should have had the range he sold to Lo-

mens and where now the Gov't has the herd.

After 1929 you got careless with your deer and quit taking care of them. That is no way to run deer. You boys know that, but you let them run wild. Now you have no more deer than a rabbit. It is too bad. Now better you go to work and buy more deer from men who are letting their deer run wild and put them on the Kotzebue Peninsula. Then you will own your deer, like a man owns cows in the States. Put them on the range and herd them every day and night till all the wolves are gone. You do not need let wolves kill deer under your noses. Don't do it!

If any one fools with you — fight them. Tell them you know how to take care of reindeer. Tell them that for twenty years you raised and kept a herd. Your herd was taken there and started in 1901. You had 800 deer there, brought over from Noatak side when I was there in 1929. If you had kept them you would have had a few all the time. You can keep from 500 to about 800 on that peninsula down to the isthmus or to the Lap fence all the time if you take care of them I think.

Why don't you do it and start now. Raise boys who will learn the work, and keep the deer like you used to keep them. You and Allen and the other old reindeer men know how. Get boys to learn, pay them deer and grub bill and a little cash. Don't make company. Each man have his deer and his mark. Make each man pay his part on the cost of herders. Don't pay fancy wages for there are boys who are doing nothing who better to learn to be reindeer men.

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THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 12, No. 1

EUGENE, OREGON

January, 1945

The thanks of the ESKIMO are due to Mr. Don C. Foster, General Superintendent of the Office of Indian Affairs, Alaska Indian Service, showing as follows:

REINDEER DATA

For year ending December 31, 1943

Station	Estimated Reindeer on Range
Akuluruk	2,000
Akitak	2,500
Atka	1,500
Barrow	2,300
Bering Unit Herds:	
(a) Allockeok	500
(b) Deering	12,000
(c) Igloo	1,000
(d) Inland	1,000
(e) Nuglunuktuk	1,600
(f) Shishmaref	5,000
(g) Teller	300
(h) Wales	150
Bethel (Johnson R)	15,000
Brower	900
Buckland	3,000
Egavik	400
Ekwok	400
Esxholdt	6,000
Golovin	1,200
Halkett	900
Hooper Bay	1,300
Kivalina	1,000
Naknek	2,100
Noatak	2,200
Nularak	400
Nome	200
Nunivak	23,000
Pilot Point (Ugashik)	1,500
Point Hope	1,100
Priblif Islands	2,000
St. Lawrence Island	15,000
St. Michael	700
Selawik	3,000
Shungnak	300
Tanunuk (Nelson Island)	3,500
Umnak	2,000
Unalakleet	800
Wainwright	959
At large—Estimated	10,000
	128,700

Mr. Foster manifested an active interest in the industry and a wish to get it back into its former prosperous condition. He notes the difficulty of getting capable men,

and that the war wages are such that, the reindeer work offers no inducements for a man to go out to herd reindeer.

Longshoring is a picnic beside reindeer handling in bitter winter weather. If one of the ordinary young fellows, untrained, or careless, goes, he lies in camp, and "guesses" the deer are all right. The herd is not kept together, and the wolves safely and unopposed, killing them.

The owner, one who has worked his apprenticeship at careful work and as the first apprentices did, six deer the first year, eight the next etc., knew what they were worth, and he stayed out all night.

The condition of herds in 1898, and in 1930 to 1935 is shown by the difference in the drives to Point Barrow in 1898 and the drive to mouth of the Mackenzie in 1929. The first was started on the trail in less than 10 days, drove 700 miles in 56 days, started with 448 deer, wolves got one, 30 were left at Point Hope to start a new herd, drivers fed on the meat, meat was supplied to the dog team and men of Jarvis' party traveling separately, and it delivered at Barrow March 30, 1898, 382 animals.

The drive of 1929 to 1935 from Kotzebue to Richards Island was from September to December 26, 1929, outfitting it had 3400 at starting, dropped 5 crops of fawns enroute, and delieverd 2370. The distance was about 1200 miles.

The proper way to handle reindeer is to have herds so the whole herd can be seen at any time any day. The report should show the number of females, males, fawns, and mavericks if any. A well kept herd will have no mavericks or estrays. Estrays should be sent to the owners herd at first opportunity. No man will honestly want strays in his herd.

The Eskimo was doing as well as any ordinary community of whites would have done under similar conditions. They were overpowered, their herds were taken out of their hands, and their lands were taken, in four of the principal key points of the first places occupied by reindeer herds. The herders found herds already established doing well under the care of the natives. These were taken between 1915 to 1922. They were held by Lomen Company. The corporation employed Laps brought by the Government

\$130.000

till the Interior Department changed the appropriation act and later purchased the non-native held reindeer, and the equipment. The pilferers were bailed out of "imminent bankruptcy." The corporation rode through the "depression" by sale of stock shares to the people, and by the loan of \$1,320,000 from the RFC.

The natives kept their herds alive with no financial assistance, in spite of their demoralization by big herds mixing, a whole unit in one herd—about 15 separate herds and which were mixed by white man's theories. Each of these herds had more deer than it was taking care of.

The Unit herd was the proposition of Carl Lomen in the PROPOSED PLAN presented to the Kendrick Committee in 1931. The native owners were not invited to that committee. They fought the Unit Herd proposition from 1931 to the time the law was passed taking the 'CONTROL' of their deer from them. Then it was over, and the theories of Lomen corporation and Biological Survey were adopted.

When the Governor took charge of the Reindeer industry in 1929, he reported 599,825 reindeer, of which the natives owned 300,049. The corporation with \$1,500,000 owned or HELD 47,794 deer counted. (Report Governor Parks, 1929, p. 77)

Which or who had succeeded, the Corporation or the native? The corporation had used about a million and a half dollars. The native had started flat footed, supported himself and family and with all the pilfering and sharp practice was doing as well as he could with little market or means of reaching one.

THE ESKIMO BLAMED FOR THE DOWNFALL OF THE REINDEER INDUSTRY

It is popular since the disaster to the reindeer industry for people to point to the Eskimo as the one to blame. He is not to blame. He did the best that he could. It is to be wondered that he didn't get out his Winchester rifle and go gunning. Almost any white man treated as many of these Eskimos were treated, would have got out his shooting irons.

The Lomen Corporation had a way of taking a herd from the mixed herd at Buckland and driving it to Golovin to butcher. They tried two drives, without separating the native deer from the drive, or reporting any killed at Golovin.

Finally a man sent to Buckland who had the sand to say to the reindeer men, — Don't let them drive till they make some arrangements about your deer in the drive.

The Eskimos promptly went out with their rifles and formed a picket line across the trail, and said "Settle for our deer before you go. The corporation settled by taking

two Buckland natives on the drive to check up the number of native deer driven. These checkers got 200 deer or about, from that drive. Whether it was all there were is a question, for the herd driven from Buckland and Lomen was nearly equal at times. It had strange fluctuations at times.

A brief history of one herd — the Buckland — will be given to show the treatment handed out to these natives. Had it been white range men, they would have got out their guns, and said — "You run this herd through the chute and swing gate out our deer and you take your deer to — out of here or there will be something done right here.

But the native knew he had no more chance than the cat in shoe without claws. So the corporation put it over with the help of Mr. Palmer, of the Biological Survey.

LIBERTY AND THE BUCKLAND ESKIMOS

Our national pride is FREEDOM and LIBERTY.

The Eskimo people are citizens of the United States. They serve in our armies. They have property rights — or should have equal to other citizens. They have lived south of Escholtz Bay, and east of the Keewalik River since before a white man had a habitation or a name in Alaska. They are a peaceable race and the white man took advantage of them.

In 1911 reindeer were brought to the Buckland range by Thomas Sokweena, who was assigned to that range on recommendation of Chief W. T. Lopp and the report of the herds for that year shows the herd as 407 reindeer with nine owners. Later Hadley's herd appeared with 532 reindeer as is shown by the official Educational Report for 1914.

In 1917, Hatta Bros. Lapps, came from the range to the eastward, with no permission of either the District Superintendent or the Local Superintendent of reindeer. They began to intrude upon and mix with the native owned herds.

The natives protested against this action as a violation of their rights. The District Superintendent protested to Hatta Bros. and they promised to move on, saying they were delayed in moving their herd. But they remained, and between 1919 and 1921 Lapps Hatta, sold to Lomen & Co., a corporation.

Lomen & Co. took possession of the range in 1921 and the Native owned reindeer, owned by Sokweena and Hadley and others, in absolute violation of all rights of property and holding of range, they being there by permission of the superintendent and as primitive occupants of the land.

Lomen & Co. rounded up the herd and were going to mark. The Natives were meeting and discussing in Kazyga fashion, as the old time Eskimos do. A Biological Sur-

vey man, employee, Mr. L. J. Palmer, Chief Biologist, sat with them and without the knowledge of the District Superintendent of the district and began to assume authority. Later he wrote the Lomens, the Buckland unit, was occupied by three herds each occupying different sections of the Buckland range or unit had mixed, and a joint roundup was in progress. Delay in handling the reindeer for marking was occasioned by objections as to methods and the question of separation on the part of the native owners led by John Hadley. "No Bureau of Education was present and therefore as a Government representative I was requested to sit in Council with the natives" wrote Mr. Palmer to Mr. Lomen in an effort to thresh out differences and allow the roundup work to proceed. "Under the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department the superintendent was in charge. The corporation wanted the herds to be held as one herd, subject to Corporation management, and that the marking be done by percentage, instead of by the owner of the mother as had been done by the reindeer service. Some details of this have already been given.

The natives objected to both, they wanted the reindeer separated to each ownership, and the fawns to be marked by the mother's mark.

Mr. Palmer appears to have used his influence as a Government officer of the Biological Survey. He had no authority to put the herds into one herd as desired by the corporation, and to mark the fawns by percentage of the fawns in number to the females. This would put the whole herd in the management of the Lomen & Co. corporation. This was done, and the herd passed under the domination of the Corporation, and the owners became practically the serfs of the corporation, and through the influence of the officer of the Biological Survey. (Letter of, L. J. Palmer, Senior Biologist, to Mr. Carl Lomen, May 6th, 1932.) For twenty years the natives protested.

The natives were being forced into a form of slavery to the Lomen & Co. Corporation, that continued until the corporation was bailed out by the Government from their benevolent undertaking of building an industry of the reindeer of the natives. Some of the details of this annexation have been given, showing the treatment of Mr. Anderson in the case.

In 1923 Mr. Palmer appears to have attended the marking of the Buckland by the corporation, and on the Biological Survey boat "Hazel", and on his boat was Alfred J. Lomen, he also had the wife and sister of Mr. Lomen on boards as guests, according to Nome Nugget.

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taken away from them. Of this Sokweena contributed the sum of \$965.24. He was credited with \$56.25 for sundry service.

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Vol. 12, No. 2

EUGENE, OREGON

April, 1945

PROTEST OF ESKIMO REINDEER OWNER

"Igloo, Alaska"

March 4, 1945

"C. L. Andrews, Dear Sir:

Just to let you know, that our corral was tear down in Grass Lake about four or five years ago. Brogg and Route (Briggs and Rood-CLA.) was let it tear down. And they let us make new corral. The lumber we made corral, is belong to Reindeer Service, Bregg said that corral would be be like ours when we build it.

And A. D. Johnson told me that Grass Lake corral it belong to Government. We didn't tear down all the old corral. The wing gate and cabin is there. I think corral is ours now. And we make at Dease Creek last summer. And we like to used winter and summer.

And I like to tell you about Reindeer Grazed ground. We not all belong to Government before we give boundaries from Government, we wach find (watched fine), but A. D. Johnson tell me there no more boundaries now. I think if there no boundaries there going to be troubles among companies, like Lomen Co. we had trouble one time. They shouldn't change our boundaries.

That all about the reindeer. You try to help me all you can what I told you. They should fired Johnson and put in new man. Please answer this letter.

From Fred Topkok."

INLAND IGLOO HERD REINDEER HISTORY

The history of this herd should be known. The herd was established in 1907. In 1909 there were 491 reindeer in the herd including Government reindeer, and 11 owners. In 1914 the herd had increased and also the number, according to the practice of the Bureau of Education to keep the herds small and well handled and domesticated, they had three herds and 1916 had five herds totaling 3940 deer—all but one herd under 1000 animals. To this time they had no trouble with strays — there were no "overs and shorts" and no mavericks.

The corporation took the Teller herd and range in 1916. It began to accumulate Igloo deer in their herds remarkably in 1924.

In 1922 there were but 58 strays in Teller-Lomen herd. 35 from Igloo, a few from Wales and other adjoining herds.

In 1926 the herders began to complain of Lomen herders coming on Igloo range. Alfred Lomen, of the corporation came to me and asked that I, as supervisor of the Reindeer Service let the corporation take the Igloo herd into corporation management. I replied by letter that our policy was to teach the Eskimos to handle their own herds, not to turn them over to corporations.

The strays from Igloo increased exasperatingly. In 1928 there were 1930 estrays in Teller-Lomen herd, and 1178 were from Igloo, and over a meddling with Wales herd the Corporation had got 640 Igloo deer into Wales herd, from Teller-Lomen herd, a total of 1718 reindeer of Igloo range. Matters became exciting. The herders from Igloo herd all went to the dog races at Nome. Too much temptation. Ole Stenfield with his herder went to Igloo range, took a bunch of deer he found rounded up and drove them toward corporation range. Fortunately for the Igloo herders they returned, found the tracks, overtook Ole and his booty at a camp they made on Igloo range—took the herd, and against Ole's protest drove the deer back to their feeding grounds. *(Mr. Topkok and his herders wrote complaints to Delegate Sutherland in Washington, and he put it in the Congressional Record. It finally got into The Progressive La Follett's paper of March 1, 1930.)

The Reindeer war went back to Washington. Complaints were made of native owned reindeer being in corporation hands, and a committee was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to investigate. Meetings were held in Washington, before the Kendrick Committee in 1931. The Corporation attempted to get a monopoly of handling the native reindeer, the killing, transportation; everything on a percentage basis, cost plus 10 per cent. It was in the Hearings of the Kendrick Reindeer Committee, 1931, and nine meetings were heard. The PROPOSED PLAN of the Corporation is in the Hearings, it looked like the hearings was in the interest of the Corporation, instead of for the native.

The corporation proposed Unit herds. The deer on the Seward Peninsula be put into units of six or more herds each. And each with a corporation herd.

This was finally done and the management of the native reindeer put into the hands of men who do not know the reindeer business. There were no men of the Service at the committee, there were no Eskimos—who owned two thirds of the reindeer. W. T. Lopp who had built up the work until 1924, 34 years in the service had been slid out. He was not asked regarding the proposal. Chief Wagner who was several years in charge was not summoned. No Eskimos were summoned to see whether they wanted their deer products sold under a monopoly on a percentage by a company, were asked. It looked like a committee to help the corporation.

The matter finally went back to Alaska. Two councils were held on reindeer matters in Nome. The Corporation tried to get its Unit Herd plan over, and get control but were unable to do so in two meetings. An expert appointed from Washington tried to put it over in what he called a convention. A secret meeting. Then he called an open meeting.

The natives attended in a body, voted the proposition down, elected their chairman, discussed their case and went home rejoicing. But finally by political methods the Unit herd prevailed and the herds are mixed till no Eskimo knows his property, and the reindeer have dwindled from an estimated nearly six hundred thousand to an estimated 128,700. The men in charge are trying to manage the property of the native and he does not like it.

This is the reason of Mr. Topkok's protest, and he appears to have a reasonable grievance. Delegate Sutherland and Delegate Wickersham defended the natives in the Committee in Washington. Delegate Dimond presented a Bill, based on the Swedish law which is what the Laps of Sweden have worked under for generations. It was emasculated by eliminations and the rider added taking all control out of the hands of the natives. Men who built up their herds for forty years, successfully, are practically ruled out of their property. There is more to say but this is enough to present the case of Mr. Topkok.

HOPE FOR THE REINDEER OWNERS

Mr. Don C. Foster is recently put in charge of the Reindeer work in Alaska. Mr. Foster wishes to get conditions righted so that the reindeer situation may be cleared up and the natives be given a square deal after thirty years of unfair treatment. Mr. First wished to improve them, but influences over which he had no control prevented. Delegate Dimond did best he could to effect

a proper adjustment of the matter. But politics and bureaucratic meddling in favor of capital; that broke into the reindeer industry of the native, blocked his efforts. It is hoped a better time is coming and that men will be put in the service who have a sympathy with the native and have some knowledge how to treat them and to carry on the reindeer industry.

BUILDING A COMMUNITY CORRAL

As has been mentioned, the separate herds had corrals, at each had for perhaps twenty years before the Secretary took control of the management of the Eskimo had privately owned herds in 1837. They were, in the herds that were put into the Teller Unit; Wales, two corrals: Teller two corrals, Teller and Agiapuk; Allokeok, at Serpentine; Nuglunuktuk, at Nunagayuk River mouth; Deering, at Teresa Creek; Igloo herd, at Grass Lake. These seemed to have sufficed for their purposes, at the time the Governor took charge in 1929.

In 1935 the Unit management and the complete mixing of these herds was accomplished against the protests of the Eskimo owners, a community corral was built at the Goodhope River. From surrounding herds in 1940 there were four roundups gathered in at the Good Hope Corral, roundups were made at Serpentine corral, 5,017 animals; Agiapuk, 8137; and again, 3002. At Goodhope corral were counted 11,337.

No roundups were made at Igloo or Wales. The work of this year pretty well completed the mixing of the Teller Unit, and it was later united with the other herds, Golovin, Elim, White Mountain, and Nome-Douglas herds, under the term of Bering Unit, with the control at Teller, by Teller Unit.

This was very much like the Russian management under Kohlkhoz, or Collective Management. The Unit dates from the PROPOSED PLAN of the Lomen Corporation at the Kendrick Reindeer Committee of 1931, and which was so strongly opposed down to the Reindeer Councils of 1931 and 1932, and the Conventions of 1932 and 1933, where the natives stole the convention and repudiated the Unit combination with the Lomen Corporation. By 1935 it was firmly fixed on the natives of seven herds. Four more herds lying at the east were added to making the whole eleven herds in Seward Peninsula into one great omolat of reindeer called the Bering Unit. It is about 100 miles north and south and approximately 200 miles east and west.

In addition to tearing down the Grass Lake corral to build another, both of which Topkok complains are claimed by Government, and the Goodhope corral is another innovation, in the way of building corrals. At the Goodhope corral the natives did the

work at one roundup and the cost was assessed to the surrounding herds in the unit, and it was paid in reindeer. There were 1135 reindeer paid for the building, and 75 reindeer were fed to dogs during the time the work was being done. All 36 were paid for work, 72 paid for food for dogs. Now Government claims both corrals. Why not do as was done for 40 years, let each herd do its own herding, counting, building corrals, etc.?

In 1940, as a preliminary for taking charge under the full operation on the management of the deer bought under the "Saving the Eskimos and Reindeer from Extinction" there was a levy made by the Bering Unit Manager, to establish a fund called "Association's Treasury Fund." This was assessed against seven native herds, Deering, Shishmaref, Nuglunuktuk, Teller Native, Cape, Inland Association, and Allopeok.

Allopeok was one of the first apprentices trained by the Government, and he is still struggling to save his herd "from extinction."

In the first year the fund had collected for Treasury of Teller Unit herd was 288 reindeer. Recent figures are not available.

NOTES ON BUILDING THE REINDEER INDUSTRY

A few notes about the manner and cost of the building the reindeer for the education of the Eskimos as herdsmen instead of hunters, the cost of same; the tearing down of the work in later years should be of interest to those who wish to see the native people have a square deal in the world.

In 1891 the project began. The first work was done through the subscription of funds by people who wished to have the Eskimos of the Arctic given some way of living in place of the hunting that they had hereditarily followed.

The whalers and walrusers of the North from 1835 to 1900 almost completely destroyed the animals of the sea on which the natives largely depended. The hordes of hunters of the western States destroyed the migratory birds. The Eskimos were starving. Some of the villages were utterly depopulated. Some Eskimos still lived. But some relief was necessary. Secretary of the Interior Teller, stated to Congress that it was better to bring reindeer, so the Eskimo could become a herdsman, that it was better than to starve them.

The reindeer were brought. The first Government appropriation was in 1894. The first shipments of reindeer were bought, the first Laps were brought, and the first herd dogs were all brought from Norway by private subscription. The first Government appropriation was \$6,000 in 1894. Ranges had to be explored, station houses had to be

built. Apprentices must be had and fed. Cabins were built from driftwood from the beach, small corrals were built. Then the matter of distribution must be met, and the cost of the purchases of the deer. The sum of the appropriations to 1900 was \$83,000. Seven years, with all these expenses met. Compare it with the appropriations of the years 1941 to 1945. After the herd had been counted by Mr. Burdick of the Forestry Service, the reindeer service—educated in animal industry" were not able to do the job, had proved incapable, and the "Reindeer King" had said they "can't be counted." The Government purchased the reindeer of the non-native holders, with their cold storages, slaughter pens, equipment and PROPOSED PLAN for managing native property. It was the best thing it could do, it had let the whole matter get into such a muss. (Remarks of Mr. Taylor, in pamphlet; Save the Eskimos and reindeer from extinction, Washington 1940).

The count showed 252,550 reindeer, a remarkable decrease since 1929 with 599,825 animals. A ten year's crop of fawns had been dropped and gone into the discard. Unparalleled management. The Service was not content to use the corrals which had sufficed the native, with the \$112,000 in improvements purchased of the octopus that has endeavored to swallow the native industry. It had to build more. It built a community corral to serve a hundred mile circle—a mixing pot. Then a whole years harvest of the whole unit was taken "to finance reindeer field work." The Unit of Teller was formed on the pattern of the PROPOSED PLAN of the defunct Reindeer Corporation in the Reindeer Committee. It was choked down the native throat by devious means.

There was a shipment made in 1940 from the Teller Unit to New York and sold to a company. There were 112,780 lbs., and the receipts were \$11,890.57 cash expenditures, not including freight and lighterage, were 21.3 per cent of sales. The transportation costs were approximately 1c lb. on the "North Star," the boat of the School Service. This ship took school supplies north and brought reindeer meat south, affording a small market for the reindeer owners, until it was taken away. First for feeding the penguins at Little America, and next for the War. The butchering costs were probably paid in reindeer as I find an item in the January 1, 1939 report, of 1049 deer being paid for N. S. butchering, at Teller. It was credited to the Teller natives, who appear to have done the work. (Report April 1, 1939, of building corral etc., Teller Unit.)

The proceeds of the sale were used for range expenses. Natives got nothing.

Before the days of UNIT HERDS and assessments the Eskimo owners did not pay Teller to butcher for them—they did it by themselves. Heretofore on sales of reindeer shipped to the States the net proceeds were distributed to owners who furnished the reindeer. Now they get nothing. Some say they are discouraged.

As soon as the herder is a hired man, there will be no herding done in nine out of ten cases. Then the herd is lost. It is so in Sweden. Prof. Wiklund wrote me years ago that it is always so "when the owner follows not the herd."

I note that a thousand deer in Finland have been killed by wolves in the year. The war has kept the deer people from herding, evidently. Usually they take proper care of their herds. The Juneau papers tell that the natives at Bethel have bought a plane and hired a pilot, with which to kill wolves. Nome papers tell of the Supervisor of reindeer making an airplane hunt with friends and they killed wolves.

The last Jexsen's Weekly says that before the plane of the Kuskokwim natives reached Bethel that the wolves had killed the reindeer. I am glad the natives had the money and enterprise to try the experiment, but it is too costly to be practical. When wolves get scarce the hunters will quit.

The only real way is the old one of watching the flock, like herdsmen have had to do since history began. The word that wolves have not changed and will not. Shooting wolves from the airplane will be fine sport while the game is plenty. It is like hunting coyotes with greyhounds — fine sport, but does not exterminate the coyotes. A man with his gun where he can see all of his herd at any time of the day, and staying right with the deer every night is the only way to control the wolf nuisance. We have had them on the frontier from Massachusetts to Alaska.

The big boss wolf catcher of the Government went clear up to Barrow, and found just what had been reported. What did he do? He sent a lot of very bad smelling stuff and some traps and then forgot it. He had a nice excursion.

Roy Nash, one of the best of the special agents of the Government made a report in 1933 that, had it been followed would have long ago stopped this reindeer catastrophe. The report was pigeon holed and has stayed there since that time.

NEW REINDEER HERD AT LOMEN-KOTZEBUE RANGE

The Reindeer Service has taken about six thousand reindeer out of the Deering and other herds on the Seward Peninsula, and put them on the range formerly occupied by the Lomen-Kotzebue herd. It is reported that Chester Seveck, one of the best rein-

deer men in Alaska has been hired as manager of the herd. If there is any man in Alaska who can and will handle a herd successfully, it is Chester Seveck. It promises success in all ways but one. There are too many reindeer in the herd to be properly cared for in one herd. It would be better in two herds but the best size herd is about 1000 reindeer.

Chester knows his people. He says:

"This part of the country old and young Eskimo native change living. They all want to live easy ways living. They all want to take easy work and never stand in rough weather, and give up too soon and all in quick. They forget old native ways, hunting the wild animals without a gun. They all do not even know how to hunt the different wild game, soon they are saying no luck that season, because they do not know how to catch them, or they wanted to come home quick to having just good time—they all do not want to take the hardship job for small wages. . . . A good Alaska native is tough, know the country in bad and stormy weather with very little food."

Seveck knows his people, and he knows his country. He is the best trail man I ever traveled with. I made one reindeer trip of 425 miles with him, Kavalina to Wainwright. He knew where to go, what to do, and how to get there.

Seveck says: "Very few reindeer men knows that way of living—are living now. Some old herders are unable to work in the herd still living. They can talk and tell the reindeer herders, but the talk never learn them how to work, unless you stay and go with them.

Now big World War, being in few years it will be hard time come next we must put our feet down and work those important things which it giving need in future times.

I am not against the Government people who working for Alaska people." I am trying and willing to help to make the better Eskimo living, better work done and strong, husky and wise Eskimo native. Alaska Eskimo native will not learn white man's ways living, but Eskimo can learn and do good ways of white man living right, so Eskimo can add to his own Eskimo ways of living right, from man's ways of living." (Letter of Chester Seveck, of Kivalina, Alaska.)

THE ESKIMO

C. L. ANDREWS, Editor and Publisher
Issued quarterly at 1734 Villard St., Eugene, Oregon.

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Sent free to those who are interested in the objects of the enterprise.

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THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 12, No. 3

EUGENE, OREGON

July, 1945

INDIANS IN THE WAR—MEDALS FOR BRAVERY

The Indians enlisted in the armed forces of the United States are establishing a remarkable record for enlistment and for bravery in action. 2nd Lieutenant Wm. F. Skiller, Jr., Cherokee was awarded the Silver Star for personal bravery. So states the Indians at Work, published in the Chicago Office of the Office of Indian Affairs, Feb. No. 1945.

In the Nov.-Dec. No., is told of Lieutenant Friedenbergh, Menominee, Indian, awarded the air medal with 7 oak leaf clusters and the distinguished flying cross, after the completion of 37 missions, flying against the enemy. Sergeant Abe Zuni, holds the air medal and three oak leaf clusters. His plane was attacked by 15 Jap Zeros, three of the attacking planes were shot down, and the plane returned safely. Some of the Indians are making records in drawing.

I am looking for some Eskimos to be decorated for bravery. They are noted for their keen mechanical ability. One recruit in the army at the Aleutian Islands, is stated to have taken a machine gun, after seeing one taken down and assembled, and taking it down and assembling it as quickly as the instructor. Eskimos make fine mechanics when they have the training.

FUR TRAPPING IN THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

White men are improperly encroaching on the native fur catch on the Aleutian Islands. One white man is said to have had the lease of seven islands and to have trapped on many others in the Aleutian Chain. This is unfair to the natives who have made their living out of the furs, and who have no other means of making a sale of their product. The traders robbed them systematically for a hundred years, and now the white man comes and takes his business away, sets a hundred or more traps where the Aleut sets twenty or thirty, and he traps the country so closely that the native has no show. This is robbing the natives of his means of livelihood. It is so in almost every part of Alaska.

In a current paper a doleful tale is cooked up of a white man who had gone out to an island to trap, missing his boat to return and of his distress till another came.

The Aleut has lived his life there and does no howling. He only asks that white men leave him to live as he has before, and his forefathers before him, for untold years. This is but one of hundreds of such cases.

REINDEER RECORDS FOR THE YEAR 1944

The record of the reindeer industry for the year are meager and far from encouraging. The report of the Governor is brief and far from satisfactory. It states, that at the close of the year there are 2,528 natives owning reindeer. This is of doubtful authenticity. The last reports from other sources indicate that there are not over sixty to seventy five thousand reindeer remaining in Alaska. In 1929 there were stated to have been 2500 native owners. There was by the Governor's Report, of that year, 599,325 reindeer in Alaska, 59 herds. This is based principally on a report made by the Bureau of Education, made in 1928, which gives practically every owner and the number of his reindeer. In the last report of the supervisor of the Service at Nome, there were only 38 herds. There are from ten to fifteen herds that have completely disappeared. The two reports do not co-ordinate.

A news report states that the Johnson herd on the Kuskokwim is being butchered completely.

The supervisor states that reindeer associations are being urged to transfer their stock to private individuals in order to save the "reindeer resource in every possible locality, and to build reindeer herds where none now exist."

The proper way to do is to find out, count and mark the reindeer running loose, divide them to the owners, and thus restore to them the property taken from them in years past, so that they may have and care for what they had accumulated by many years of labor.

On December 18, 1929 a petition and protest covering this requested action, was filed with the Secretary of the Interior, and a copy filed in the office of the Governor of the Territory of Alaska. It showed that over ten thousand native deer were being held by a corporation, that they had been held for years before that, and that they should be delivered to the owners. It asked for the returning of each man's reindeer to

the owner, that he should herd his deer properly, and for a penalty for allowing estrays to remain in a herd to which they did not belong, but be returned to the owner on payment of costs as provided by law and which was being violated systematically. It also asked for allotment of lands to owners, specifying the limits within which each owner must keep his reindeer.

This application was being pigeonholed in all three offices until the Seattle Post Intelligencer, of Seattle, published notice of it and this caused the appointment of the Kendrick Reindeer Committee, in 1931, supposed to inquire into the truth of the statements, and to provide a remedy.

The Reindeer Committee ignored the protest, and proceeded to hear the application of the Corporation, under a PROPOSED PLAN of the Corporation to take charge of all the marketable reindeer of the natives, kill, store, transport, and market same on a percentage basis. This would give a monopoly which was prevented being passed by the efforts of Delegates Sutherland and Wickerdham. The corporation however remained in total or partial domination of the said native owned reindeer in four herds, Teller, Golovin, Olson's and Buckland for years till in 1940 the Government purchased the property of the non-native owners, which had been procured in violation of the intent of the Government, and of private donors of funds to procure reindeer for natives.

Meanwhile these reindeer, and all other reindeer owned by the natives were taken under the sole control of the Secy. of Interior of the United States—thus depriving all native owners of their property procured by forty years of care and labor and destroying all feeling of ownership among the natives who fought for years against these measures. The said property remains in this condition to this day. Under this management it has disappeared in perhaps the most disastrous of livestock investments in the record of livestock breeding in the United States.

THE PRESENT CONDITION

At the present time the reindeer industry is back in a worse condition than it was in the year the first attack was made against it. In 1914 the Corporation, actuated by greed, and abetted by jealous politics, drove the first wedge. There were 57,573 reindeer in Alaska in that year, but every one was in perfect domestication. They were in 66 small herds. There were 1551 trained sled deer. Today the number of herds containing trained sled deer may be counted on the fingers of one hand.

Today the natives are discouraged, deteriorated by the vices and diseases of the white men. Some of them have been Faginized by rascally Lap overseers who taught

them the tricks that put more Laps in jail in Norway than any other crime — the unlawful acquiring of the reindeer of their neighbors. So says Rasmus B. Anderson, in a letter, p. 148 Reindeer Report 1893.

PRESENT NEED OF THE INDUSTRY

The present need is of a man who knows the reindeer work. He must have touch with the native and an ability to get along with them. The Eskimo is friendly, capable, quick of understanding, faithful if properly treated. He is liberal and hospitable. Even the president of the corporation that sought to get rich off his lack of knowledge of the white man, bore testimony to his honesty, in the Kendrick Committee Hearings. He says of him:

"It is very easy to guide an Eskimo when you come forward with a fair plan which is approved by the Government itself—always a very easy matter and it is not difficult."

"Government is perhaps the highest sounding word in the vocabulary of an Eskimo, if a man is a Government man that is all that is necessary." (Reindeer Hearings, 1931, page 93.)

But his confidence is somewhat shaken by his treatment by some Government officials in past years.

EXTRACT FROM AN OFFICIAL LETTER

Kotzebue, Alaska
March 24th, 1944

Mr. John Hadley,
Buckland Old Village.

"I believe that you are just about the only old time reindeer man left around the Buckland range. Most of the older men have moved away to a larger village for other kind of work, and many have died. You are still living and you can still do much work with reindeer. You are still one of the large owners in the Buckland Eskimo Reindeer Company. You have an investment in the shares of that company. You naturally wish to protect that which is yours. You have done this by going to the herd and helping the new or the inexperienced reindeer herders tend the herd. They will learn much from your teaching of old time methods, because some of the methods were good for the healthy growth of reindeer. There is one thing happening in reindeer herds, a thing that did not happen to herds in the old days when you were a young man. That thing happening is wolves.

You will realize that in order to protect reindeer from those fellows it is necessary to watch the herd all the time, day and night. Watching a herd day and night is another new thing to old reindeer men. You are one old time reindeer man who can change herding ways to keep up with the needed new things to be done.

I wish you would talk to the Buckland herd boys, who are the owners themselves,

like you and see that they watch the herd well and "Day and Night." Please help that company to understand they alone can save the property from the wolves. No one wishes to see the Buckland Company go broke for lack of reindeer.

I am going to depend on you, because you are an old man, and knew the old things.

Very truly yours,

Signed _____

(Name not attached to copy.) What was this fellow there for?

Mr. Hadley probably watched reindeer at night before this Unit Manager was born. If the manager had read the old reports he would have found that Sokweena, of this herd, chief owner, herded as an apprentice at Teller about 1895, when on night herd in a storm so thick that the day men could not find the herd in the morning and he had to stand two watches.

There were wolves in the country before white men came. They killed two team dogs for Zagoskin, the Russian surveyor who surveyed the Lower Yukon river in 1842-3. The manager likely never saw a reindeer before he got the \$2700 job of managing the reindeer and what he has learned has been from the Eskimos. Now he sits up and patronizes the old man who had his deer taken by the Corporation in 1921 with the aid of an officer of the Biological Survey, and the old man who has had to hunt and trap since during that time to pay for herding his deer on his own ground. Invites him to spend his time advising the young bucks who are feeding their dog teams on his reindeer. An Eskimo never misses remarks of this kind, he may not show it at the time but he never forgets it.

LAW ON PUNISHMENT CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

I have a letter from a man who states that certain young Eskimos chase reindeer with their dog teams till the reindeer fall down exhausted and blood running from their mouths. Then the Eskimos kill the deer and throw its carcass on the sled and take it to their village for food and dog food.

I am sorry to hear this, as I did not know any Eskimo boys foolish enough and lawless enough to do such a thing. I did know of a young deer man who came to the village with his sled deer, and took a party out riding, took too large a party, and drove so hard that his sled deer fell down and died.

In most states there is a law against cruelty to animals, and a man who commits a crime like that would be liable to severe punishment.

Besides this, no good reindeer man would treat his deer in that manner. Reindeer cannot successfully be bred and kept with such things being done. I hope it will at

once be stopped if it has happened.

The killing of the reindeer for dog food should not be permitted. The industry cannot be carried on successfully under that practice. The dogs are not valuable enough to pay a fair price for the meat, and there are not enough deer remaining to allow the practice. It is like feeding wolves on deer meat—it does not pay. It is poor practice to use dogs instead of deer for driving.

A dog will eat three pounds of food a day, ten dogs eat 30 lbs. a day, 30 days is 900 lbs a month. That is ruinous to a herd.

It has been fashionable for about fifteen years to blame the native for everything that goes wrong, or can be complained of, in reference to the Reindeer Industry. The president of the corporation that instigated the breaking of the terms of the loans to the Laps and the conditions under which the loans were made to the missions, made for the express purpose of distributing the animals among the native adherents of the missions; including the violation of the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department stated as follows:

STATEMENT OF FACT: "The original object of the introduction of domesticated reindeer into Alaska has long since been fulfilled." Hearings Reindeer Committee, 1931, p. 150)

Judge James Wickersham, Delegate from Alaska replied, at page 410 of same Hearing:

"It will never be fulfilled as long as there are any differences up there. Those natives are the same class and kind of people that they were when these reindeer were brought there. They are natives and they are as my friend Lomen says of them, 12 year old children . . . Well, 12 year old then. The Government is dealing with 12 year old children, the Government is, and the Lomens are. And 12 year old children cannot look out for themselves against a shrewd active business man like Carl Lomen . . . But to say this matter is all fulfilled is a mistake, it is only just begun."

The Eskimo, in our laws, and our literature is a 12 year old, but in his own language and mode of life he is full grown. He, with bows, spears, harpoons and other weapons made from the driftwood and stones of the beach, and sinews of animals, their skins, has lived and killed the greatest animal on earth, the whale, and the polar bear — he has lived for centuries as no white man has — and he is competent. In the shrewd dealings of the white man he is inexperienced and should have a SQUARE DEAL.

Now, May 10, 1945, a man in the service of the United States comes with "Circular No. 73" and tells 'Unit Managers, teachers, and Reindeer Owners; Our objective is to create a reindeer business which is similar

to Laplanders."

The reindeer industry, as great or greater than that of Lapland was in existence in 1929. The man who wrote this, was in the employ of the Government at that time. During the time of his service, that industry has fallen from 599,825 animals to about 65,000 estimated.

He has been dealing with the same natives as those who built that industry, and has left it, under his management, fall into this beacle. He argues "The early natives had unquestioning faith in the reindeer progress of the great new white man's Government." He continues, "The Government distributed reindeer among the people of many villages along the coast without teaching these people how to manage reindeer, or having any assurance that they would care for the deer properly."

His whole paper is an attack on the men who spent their lives in building up that industry, and giving these people a chance to live, to be a herdsman instead of a huntsman. He has promulgated a system which has become insufficient in these days of the destruction of wild life by sea or land. His argument is a slander on those who left nearly six hundred thousand reindeer in 1929.

It is hoped that some one will wake up and begin to do reindeer business in same lines as those which built up an industry at from \$5000 a year to \$25,000 a year appropriation from the United States instead of the present management which is losing with an appropriation of from \$75,000 to \$95,000 a year.

FIRST REINDEER APPRENTICES IN ALASKA

It may be interesting to some of the old time Eskimos to remember the first Eskimo herders who learned their trade in 1894.

In 1894 there were 13 reindeer being broken to drive. A large pen or corral was made in which they put the deer for milking. Watches for the herders were changed every twelve hours. In May and June the deer were inclined to scatter, hunting for a plant with a clover-like head. They caught their sled deer by a lasso, or tolled them with a cup of urine. While the deer drank, the arm with a loop of rope was slipped round the neck. Salt was tried but the deer did not like it so well. A few deer learned to eat flour, corn meal and bread. Some have prided themselves in recent years with getting deer to eat grain but it is an old story, a sort of chestnut, done fifty years ago. The sled deer were used for travel to and from the herd.

At first there were three Siberian herders, as instructors. Anker and Dantin from South Head, Siberia, the other, Nootall, from Cape Serdze Kamen, or Heart Rock from the Arctic Coast west of East Cape. They

were useful in many ways, but made so much trouble that they were wished back in Siberia soon and finally were sent back. Anker beat a deer he was breaking, threw it on the ground and stamped it till he broke its jaw. He was as bad as a half blood Eskimo who at Nome, when I wanted him to break a deer beat it with his fist till he blinded it. Then he drove a sled deer of Duffy O'Connor's to Nome pretending it had been broken by him. I never knew an Eskimo to abuse a reindeer like that.

Tatpan Oonakleet was from the Kuskokwim. I think went to Shaktolik had a herd. Tautik, who served his four years, took his deer, went to Teller about 1900, then to Nome and was sent East with sled deer to New York and other places two seasons, finally died at Nome. He was one of the best known of the old reindeer men, and perhaps the most skillful deer man in the country. He drove with the herd that went to Barrow with W. T. Lopp for the relief of the whalers in 1898. He was an expert at breaking reindeer to drive.

There was Chearlie Antisarlook, known as "Reindeer Charlie", and his wife Mary Andreevuk. Charlie with his four brothers got the first allotment of a loan of reindeer. He prospered, had a herd, paid his loan in 3 years, the Laps had five years, he drove his herd to Barrow to the relief of the shipwrecked and ice bound whalers. Later he died and his wife Mary took the herd, held it for years, raised many orphans, had to abandon her range because of prospectors and miners killing so many of her deer. Drove her herd around the head of Norton Bay, to Unalakleet and finally to Stuart Island at Stebbins, built a corral there which still stands. She grew old, white men got her deer into their herds and they disappeared. She lives at Unalakleet, old, and living on a pension from the Territory. There are many interesting stories about "Reindeer Mary."

There was Kivyearzrook, of Prince Wales, who served his term to become a herder—took his herd and went to Shishmare Inlet and later to the Nuglunuktuk River, where he has a herd. He spends his winters in Deering or in trapping on the hills.

If this interests the old time reindeer men I'll write some more in the next ESKIMO. Tell me if you like it.

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ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 12, No. 4

EUGENE, OREGON

OCTOBER, 1945

In 1891 a new industry was begun in Alaska. It laid the very foundations against opposition, and has had to battle for life ever since.

In 1913, Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, of the United States, said:

"The one constructive thing that was done by the Government in favor of Alaska, in nearly half a century, was the importation of reindeer for the benefit of the Eskimo on the border of the Arctic Ocean."

In 1929, The Manchester Guardian, of Manchester, England, published an editorial, which in part said:

"There have been few social experiments more interesting than the introduction of reindeer into Alaska, and the current report of the United States Bureau of Education shows that the experiment is still going well. . . . The purpose of the reindeer industry was primarily to make the country self supporting. . . . A less scrupulous commercialism may invade the country. Up to now the Eskimo has nothing but gratitude to feel toward the United States.

Reprinted in Monthly News Bulletin, Seattle Office of Bureau of Education, Sept. 1929, p. 5.

The industry was a success for forty years. It made mistakes as almost all new industries do, but in 1929 it turned over to the Governor of Alaska 599,825 reindeer in herds extending from Point Barrow and eastward, to Kodiak Island, Atka Island of the Aleutians, and to the Pacific Coast.

Since 1929 it has fallen to an estimated 65,000. The old morale and discipline is almost destroyed. It needs a change of policy to restore it; to make it fill the purpose originally intended, of educating the huntsman to be a herdsman.

A few of the men of the old regime are being paid, as hired men, to build a GOVERNMENT herd, instead of restoring the ones that existed in the beginning and from 15 to thirty years ago.

MANAGEMENT

The reindeer industry was so successful that it became the object of greed to a lot of white men who were jealous of the native having any success in the world. It was not built on airplanes, autos, pickups, with nothing to pick up except fishing parties; expensive living quarters and a lot of these modern fixtures. It will not stand the expense.

It must be handled by the people who must live by it. First separate the herds on the Seward Peninsula and give each herd its deer. Then let those who will take care of the animals, have what belongs to him.

Out of those reindeer bought to save the Eskimo and the Reindeer from Extinction take the number of deer that were taken from them by the corporation, restore to the owners, what they lost and let them have them for a start. Let the owners run their deer and if they cannot, let them lose them. Don't lose them by government management that knows nothing of the business except what it has learned from the native owners. If the owner does not take care of them, take them off his hands and let him go to seal hunting. It will cost the Government less.

Let the natives meet and discuss the management and suggest improvements. They know. In Sweden that is the way the Laps handle their work. Bailiffs, Laps, oversee the local details.

In Alaska the Supervisor issued a circular, June 13, 1945, stating "The native's interest in reindeer is limited to (1) talking, (2) getting free meat and skins and the interest in fawning is lacking even the resource is more valuable to the native than ever. . ."

The first statement of this is not a fair one. Every man has the right to do "talking." A reindeer supervisor has no prerogative that allows him to stop it.

(2) The right of free speech belongs to the citizen of the United States under the Constitution.

(3) About getting free meat and skins, the natives of Teller, Golovin, Mrs. Olson, and Buckland; have not had the right to their own skins, meat, and sinew for about 25 years. Give each man back his property — unscramble the omelet that has been mixed against the efforts of the native and the deprecated management known as the Bureau of Education. It fought that mixing to the best of its ability. The Government failed to back it, and now see the consequences.

There has been enough money wasted in the past five years to have put the work on it sfeet, eliminate the laggards, let them go sealhunting, give the men who have and will take care of the reindeer a show, help them a little. Don't give things, giving spoils men; heling judiciously, makes men.

From 1913 to 1918, the rindeer industry was being built at a cost of \$5000 a year appropriation.

From 1940 to 1945 it has been allowed to go to ruin at from \$75,000 to \$95,000 a year after expenses of \$112,000 for range equipment, and \$75,000 for counting to find where the business was what property was being bought.

It is time to make a change—right now.

REMARKS ABOUT REINDEER MANAGEMENT

A writer in the Nome Nugget heads an article, with:

"Good management can increase herds." Good management can build reindeer to half a million and at a fraction of present expense per year and a man who is directly responsible for its management lets it slip faster and faster for fifteen years. Why doesn't he do something to show some management. For the past five years and more over \$75,000 annually has been appropriated presumably to get the herds of Alaska in some sort of shap. They try to show that the approaching destruction to the mainland herds has been caused by these who handled it for forty years before the governor stepped into the breach. He thinks an industry, handed to the new SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT was the sole cause of it. He forgets that 599,825 reindeer were handed to the present management by the ones who

built it by forty years of care and hard work. They did not say "Good management can increase herds of deer." They DID it, did it every year for forty years.

He tells of Chester Seveck driving reindeerr for him. He did not teach Chester Sevech anything about reindeer. Chester built a herd ten years before this supervisor ever saw a reindeer herd. He lost it by new scientific management making big herds not properly handled. Now this supervisor is learning from Seveck who learned his trade more than a quarter of a century ago. Seveck did not contribute to this botch of the business as has come in the past 14 years. The herd Robert Clark has, (is it the Buckland herd? if so) was it built by old Sokweena and John Hadley, and after twenty years of handling by the corporation, it still had 1500 reindeer. Clark didn't build that herd; the writer in fifteen years service has never built a herd.

He mentions "The new herd management" which, commencing in 1940, now under Clark was not one of the builders of a herd. The herd mentioned in the Burdick count had 1200 deer. Is that what the management is proud of? He is not definite in the herd. It sound like the Buckland herd, where Chas. Clark lived there many years.

He speaks of "the new management" which "commencing in 1940, is spreading reindeer," which have been reduced from a peak of 600,000 in 1932 to about 65,000 today," and points with pride to the acrieve-ment.

He says it can be rebuilt — of course it can, there are as many today as there were in 1914 when the corporation began the grabbing of herds and plundering them. In those days there were wolves, and bear, and lynx, I saw 17 lynx skins bought at Icy Cape in 1917. There are said to have been over 500 lynx killed that year in the Northwest District.

Why didn't the writer find this all out when he had 600,000 in his herds, and drive twenty or thirty thousand reindeer to the ranges over near Fairbanks, and relieve the ranges on the coast? In 1923 W. T. Lopp had driven a herd to Broad Pass. The General Reindeer Supervisor has recently is-

sued a 24 page circular No. 73. It is about as full of misconstrued history, and half truths as is possible for that many pages to contain.

The supervisor has for years been against the welfare of the native interests. He has tried to make the enemies of the native owners profit by the losses of the natives.

The Lomens paid their respects to him, in the Kendrick Committee. (Kendrick Com. Hgs., p. 53) He was changed to the Golovin Unit and at Golovin a Unit manager of that Unit, he changed the status of the reindeer of the native owners who had for years been held unfairly and unjustly as co-owners, to the status of stray owners. Many of these men had been owners of reindeer on that range before the Lomen Corporation had an incorporated existence. They were almost literally serfs of the corporation. They were paid what the corporation willed and charged as the corporation saw fit. The custom had been to allow these people, who were classed as co-owners, a share in the mavericks, (unmarked deer) in the herd. This had been on the usage for years. The Supervisor changed the status of these owners to give them no mavericks. This began about 1933, the annual report signed by him as a Government Unit manager of Golovin Unit for Mrs. Olson's deer shows no allotment of mavericks. This practice continued through his holding that office at that station and during his incumbency in the office of General Supervisor.

He was later stationed at the Teller herd. In 1936 he made a count of that herd as Unit manager in charge, and on finding over 1500 mavericks in the herd, allowed the Lomen Corporation, over 700 mavericks, and the Teller natives who entered an agreement allowing the Lomen Corporation a share in their grazing lands, about the same number of mavericks. Neither the Teller natives nor the Lomen Corporation had more than about 100 females, adults. There was an evident injustice, as there were over 1000 other herd females in the count. It appears to have been a rustling of several hundred mavericks and about 1000 other deer from an adjoining range. The Unit manager approved this allotment. It shows he is not a man of enough justice to be allowed in a position to handle the property of natives just learning our ways and supposed to be educated to be citizens of our country. It was unjust.

THE GOLOVIN HERD

Again he points with pride to the Golovin herd, "with approximately 1000 reindeer attended constantly by Siegfried and three

herders." Siegfried is a herder who was one of the corporation men who built up the herd by helping the corporation in its lord-ing it over the owners of the old "co-owners" of Golovin herd that the corporation pressed into their service in their effort to create a Get-Rich-Quick speculation out of ruining the native industry. And it was done by eating up the property of the natives of deer who had earned and cared for the herds in years past. In 1896 the herd was founded by a loan to the mission for the purpose of helping the natives to earn and keep reindeer for themselves. This was done; the natives attended the herd, through storms and fought the wild animals and birds that attacked the deer same as they do now, only they did not allow them to prey on the deer herds and grow fat and increase. Wolves were always in Alaska so far as any account exists. In 1911 there were 40 owners in the Golovin herd. Mollie Dexter and Mrs. Bimbrachik, (a widow) afterward Mrs. Olson), were among them.

Mrs. Olson afterward took her deer and went to the head of the Catchouic River, or near there, and took a range before the Lomen Corporation existed.

In 1915 The Lomen Corporation took the Golovin herd. The mission sold its reindeer to the corporation. Sold the birthright of their dependents for thirty pieces of silver. The Mission had accumulated 1245 deer, and the natives 788. The mission had slacked in its distribution. The Corporation took the native-owned reindeer, with the ultimatum that the owner could remain as a "co-owner," or remove to other range, thus offering him the alternative of leaving home and range and hunt other lands or else. . . .

The Olson herd was being cared for by Mrs. Olson and her Lapp husband until 1922 or thereabout, when the Lomen Lapp chief herder drove the Golovin herd over the range of the Olson's herd, and took the reindeer. Some call it rustling! Teaching the native herders the trick-paternalizing the unsophisticated natives! The local Superintendent of the district forced a roundup and separated the herds. At once the Lap chief herder repeated taking the herd and it was held by the corporation till the Government purchased the Corporation holdings in 1940, and absorbed the income of the herd, while the owner lived by other means and paid herding bills for herding not rendered—the service mainly consisting of rounding up, marking and butchering of the deer on the range for market.

GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT OF GOLOVIN

In 1940, when the Interior Department purchased the non-native held herds, the report of the count of the year, signed by the Supervisor shows 4664 reindeer in the herd.

Among the original native owners remaining after 18 to 25 years of bondage in Egypt, were as follows:

Elrira Olson 242 reindeer, butchered 7; she had 700 in 1922.

John Dexter, heir of Mollie Dexter 36, butchered 4.

These are the survivors of 40 owners the capture of 1915.

A report from the count of 1945, referred to by the Supervisor in the Nome Nugget in 1945 as approximately 1000 deer, shows a total of 682 reindeer. Government 630; Siefried, one of the chief herders of the Corporation for some years, 2; Mrs. Olson 11; Walter E. Sooklook or Asuklook another chief herder of Lomen, 22; Government took all the mavericks and fawns. If a native-owned deer is left on the range, with a fawn, in the next year the Government takes the fawn as a maverick.

This supervisor is responsible for every year of the last five and for 15 years has been one of the "Scientific" management that has allowed the reindeer to be lost since 1929 from 599,825 reindeer to an estimated 65,000, and most of these are on the islands on the Bering Sea, which are given no attention by the supervisor, except he expects to butcher from Nunivak Island an indefinite number between 7000 and 20,000.

One of the best small herds, the one with the largest animals in the whole list, Alitak on Kodiak Is., has butchered deer weighing 268 pounds. This is unknown anywhere else in Alaska. It has had no attention since the deer were placed there, outside of the native Eskimo care and attention.

In closing his Circular No. 73 the Supervisor states: "A reindeer textbook is being prepared." If it is based on his record, it will be a curiosity. His Circular is mainly trying to bolster the record of the corporation that took four herds into bondage for nearly twenty years.

The Supervisor is a very fine gentleman, he has treated me very courteously when I visited him in his office in Nome. But as a manager of reindeer he is, as one Alaskan sententiously remarked a "frost".

The Bureau of Education procured the reindeer, pioneered the ranges, established the herds from Barrow to Iliamna, and Ke-

diak Island. It put the first shelter cabins on Teller range and the station house and corrals. It built the first log cabins for the service. It placed the first doctors for the Eskimos. It established the first hospitals. It held reindeer fairs to interest and instruct the natives. It shipped the first deer meat to market in the States. It built up the herds till they numbered about six hundred thousand, it increased all the deer about 20 per cent every year of its work, in addition to what the natives used for their skin clothing and the meat for food; it had reindeer for sled service, at one time over 1600 trained reindeer. How many are there today?

It secured the first and only boats for bringing reindeer meat to Seattle by the government and shipped the first dressed carcasses to Seattle, distributing three choice carcasses to the Transcontinental railways for an advertisement. It aided in the sale of native manufactures of ivory and skin manufacturers. It stocked St. Lawrence Island, the Pribilof Islands, Umnak Island and Atka Island, of the Aleutian Chain.

What has been done during the supervisorship of the past 15 years of the reindeer industry. If the Supervisor will furnish the information it will be published as far as the space of the ESKIMO extends, and credit given him therefor.

In 1940 the Government purchased, under the title of "Saving the Eskimos and Reindeer from Extinction", 83,442 reindeer at a cost of \$328,326, and range equipment to the amount of \$112,925.75, something never before done for the assistance of the supervision of reindeer. It paid \$75,000 additional as costs of the counting of the reindeer in addition to the usual appropriation of about \$33,000. The largest appropriation for up-building and maintenance of the Bureau of Education supervision, was as has been stated, \$25,000.

The Bureau of Education made 25 different drives, the first in Alaska was Teller to Wales, 60 miles in 1894, the last from The Good News Bay to the Broad Pass about 600 miles and the longest drive Wales to Barrow, 700 miles in 1893.

What are the present records? The longest trips are to Washington, D. C. Mr. Shields did not leave his field from 1911 to his death in 1913.

By 1928 the Teller herd was built up to 5488 deer, 2939 Lomen Corporation. Teller

native 617, Stray 1930. The strays of 1926 were nearly all from Igloo. The strays of 1929, were nearly all from Wales (Cape Co.) The stray Igloo deer had nearly disappeared, probably through the butchering pens.

In 1927, the corporation found no reindeer on Teller Range. They went to the Kendrick Committee and charged the Wales natives with taking their whole herd — 12,000 deer. They went to Wales and demanded 6000 reindeer, Wales natives refused to deliver. They protested that Lomens had taken Wales deer. Finally on advice of Government officers the Corporation took 3000 deer, the natives allege, the drive lost about half of them on the way, and drove the rest to Teller. There the corporation worked the herd, took all the mavericks, 240 in number in violation of the rule that mavericks belong to the range where found, took all the unmarked fawns — resulting in the corporation on 230 marked reindeer, taking out 327 reindeer, Wales had 948 old marked reindeer which were turned out on corporation range as strays, with fawns marked with corporation mark.

After all these fights, trying to protect themselves, the natives are alleged to have lost interest in the reindeer. In a Government function, The Regional Management and Planning Board states:

"With the advent of the white commercial enterprises the crude methods heretofore in use are found unsatisfactory. This led in 1920 to the scientific investigation of the problems by the Biological Survey, and later in 1928 to the establishment of the Reindeer Experiment Station at College, and substations at Nome, and Nunivak Island."

With about 600,000 reindeer turned over in 1929, the Board calls it "crude methods," with "scientific investigation," now showing only 65,000.

PRACTICAL MANAGEMENT VS. "SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS"

These so called "scientific" methods, were taking small herds of the natives into Lomen Corporation herds, making large herds, of mixed white and native ownership, percentage marking of these herds, mavericking adjoining herds, faganizing the native herders and drivers, and finally slacking the morale of the domestication of the reindeer.

The result of the two methods is shown by the drives of 1898 by the methods of the Bureau of Education from Wales to Point Barrow; and the driving of the reindeer by the corporation in 1929 to 1935 by the Lomen Corporation (employees.)

W. T. Lopp, of the Bureau of Education, one of the derided school teachers with superstitious methods, got the Wales herd and Antisarlook's herd, numbering 448 animals and outfitted the whole in an Eskimo village 250 miles from a trading post, in ten days and delivered the herd at Barrow in 53 days, a distance of 700 miles and a degree farther north than the mouth of the Mackenzie River. (See Jarvis, Overland, Expedition, to Relief of Whalers, 1898, Washington Gov't. Ptg. Ofs. 1899.)

The corporation drive with deer trained under the SCIENTIFIC methods mentioned, were six months preparing, making harness, getting sleds from Seattle, sending supplies up the Kobuk River to Hun River, and started on December 26th, 1929. The start of the drive was attended by a member of the Biological Survey and his comment in the Nome Nugget, was that the reindeer were very poorly domesticated. It reached Hunt River the first winter, after crossing the Selawik native range, pasturing on it for months, spent the summer between the Norovik and Shungnak ranges, pastured their ranges, let their deer run loose to the demoralizing of both these herds. The herd made 100 miles that winter. Next winter they reached the Colville River, spent the summer there, and drove part of the herd to Barter Island, left the rest mixed with the native herds at the Colville, and returned for them the next winter. The herd finally reached Richard Island, Canada in 1935, five years and four months on the way, and the men in charge had to get the Wood boys, two Eskimos trained by the Bureau of Education, to help put the herd through. It is popularly believed in that country that had he not had their help he would not have reached his destination at all. The native herds along the way were mixed, demoralized, disgusted and disappeared.

If this is not proof enough, consider the matter that the Bureau of Education, under the derided methods secured the Reindeer, built the stations, pioneered the ranges, distributed the reindeer, and established an industry that numbered 599,825 animals as turned over to the Governor of Alaska in 1929. Under the Governor, and the Interior Department management under alleged "scientific" methods, by 1940 Mr. Burdick of the Forestry Service, in order to find how many reindeer existed in Alaska, counted and found 252,550 reindeer. In 1945 there has been no count made in all herds, but the estimate is about 65,000 remaining.

Is this sufficient to show the assertion of the Board of Planning is sadly erratic and unfair?

The industry was built from 1892 to 1929 with appropriations totaling about \$450,000. The highest amount appropriated was \$25,000 for importing, pioneering the range, distributing and establishing the herds, teaching the apprentices to become herdsmen and making the herds self supporting for forty years. There were over 70 native herds and about 600,000 deer. Undermining influences grabbed away four herds of reindeer from the owners, and gathered in more than ten thousand head of reindeer under the coined name of "Co-owner" and thousands of strays and mavericks. The Superintendent of the Bureau of Education begged for a Government suit to determine his authority, and recover the absorbed reindeer. It was thrown out of court and some assumed authority in name of the Department of Justice ordered no further papers be filed. The Reindeer Service and the natives were deserted. The attacker remained.

The mercenary undermining influences clamored that the work of the Reindeer Service of the Bureau of Education was incompetent, and procured it pitched out on its head and the Governor of the Territory, who knew nothing of reindeer management was given charge.

The Biological Survey, to 1929, when the Governor took charge, had received between 1921 to 1929, \$258,289.61 and a subsidy from the Territory in addition. What did it accomplish. It issued some pamphlets of percentage marking of fawns, and some studies of *Ceraria* mosses and tried to get the management of the ranges turned over to it.

In 1940 Mr. Burdick of the Forestry counted the reindeer, and found 252,550 reindeer, owned one third by non-native owners and two thirds by native owners. This was what was left of the 599,825 reindeer turned over by the Bureau.

The Government bailed out the owners from bankruptcy, and the Secretary took charge under the law above cited. In 1945 the estimate of the remaining reindeer is 65,000. They are not counted.

The policy appeared to be to starve out the owners of the native herds and to build up a Government herd, an Authority?, using the appropriation for that purpose.

There were thousands of native owned reindeer mixed in among the corporation reindeer purchased among the non-native deer purchased. The fawns have gone un-

marked until the herds are about two thirds mavericks. It is mixed like an omelet. Ten or fifteen native owned herds in Bering Unit, mixed with an unknown number of Government deer. From \$75,000 to \$95,000 in appropriations have been given in past six years. Enough to get the whole industry in some sort of order and the owners to have their deer so they can care for their own. Hired herders will not stand those storms and care for the deer. They will let the wolves have them as long as they can get enough deer meat to eat and feed the dog team for them to sport around with.

It is time to clean house if the Government has any respect for the rights of its Eskimo citizens, some of whom have been fighting our battles while seatwarmers have been losing their herds at home.

The herds that were accumulated by honest, hardworking natives, under an appropriation of from five thousand dollars a year to not more than \$25,000 annual cost, are being squandered under appropriations as cited above.

The first thing to do, is to separate the herds in the Bering Unit, give every man his own reindeer. The cooperative herd has not been successful. The owner must follow his herd. Hired herders will not work with a herd if it does not pay big wages, and the reindeer industry is a small man's trade, and it will not stand overhead and big concentrations.

A man will fight for his own home, his own property, but not for his boarding house or another man's property, to follow the herd in those northern storms is not a soft job. The herd cannot be protected in an igloo. The man must be on the job, night and day.

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THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

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JANUARY, 1946

A NEW REINDEER POLICY IN ALASKA

It is believed that a new policy is to be followed in Alaska. It is believed that Mr. Don Foster, is going to give the native a show to live and pursue the reindeer industry in Alaska, as was intended when the industry was founded.

Ever since 1914 there have been influences in Alaska and in Washington, D. C. that were inimical to the native reindeer industry.

It is now hoped that a management is taking the interest of the native in a fair and reasonable manner. The Eskimo is a citizen. He has served his government in the great War, just as have other citizens. Now it is time he has a SQUARE DEAL and is not disturbed in his rights.

The mixed herds, in Unit herds or otherwise should be restored. The native never went into servitude as a "CO-OWNER" willingly. And the Government did not protect him.

Now it is hoped that a man is in the management who will see that the reindeer are restored to the owners, and they are given transportation at a living rate for his product to market. The Eskimo can as near live in his country as can any other citizen. He has done it from the beginning, till the white man took away his livelihood. Now it is time to restore his property, and to see that he has a fair chance to carry on the business of reindeer breeding the same as the Lap does in Lapland. It is like the upright judge that mankind has been praying for during the ages. Undue pressure has been ever since the Corporation took herds from the owners in 1914 to 1922, and the president of the corporation was made JUDGE. Under that arrangement the Eskimo had no chance whatever.

May 1, 1940, a circular was issued in Teller, Alaska, that a "Treasury Account" for the association of reindeer owners had been set up with 2,500 shares credited to it, which amount, we

(Continued on Page Four)

REINDEER BUTCHERING OF NUNIVAK ISLAND

Mr. Don Foster, the General Superintendent of the Reindeer Service in Alaska, informs me that he has been on an extensive survey by plane of the reindeer region. He writes:

We are continuing the policy of transferring company and association reindeer back as far as the companies will release them, and competent individual Eskimos are willing to care for them and develop a livestock means of industry as a livelihood.

There are on Nunivak Island an estimated 25,000 to 30,000 Government reindeer. The grazing range on the island was not adequate to support this many reindeer. Last summer the Government carried on a butchering project at Nunivak. There were 4,874 deer butchered. The entire quantity of meat and hides have been sold. The Government will continue to butcher every summer and loan reindeer, on repayment basis from Nunivak until the herd is cut down to the proper size.

STATEHOOD FOR ALASKA

The question of Alaska being made a state is again being brought up. It is time Alaska should be made a state. It has been a step-sister long enough in the Sisterhood of States. Make it a state so that a representative and senators will be sent and they will have votes. Votes are what count in Washington. As it now is, the Delegate is simply a cipehr, a "O". He can go around begging for appropriations, etc.

ROOD LEAVES REINDEER SERVICE

Mr. J. Sidney Rood, supervisor of the Alaska Native Service, terminated his service August 5, 1945, according to the Jessen's Weekly, Fairbanks of Nov. 2, 1945.

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ESKIMO JADE AND REINDEER

The newspapers say that Mayor M. R. Marsden and General Superintendent Don Foster of the Interior Department are going to see that the Eskimo has a square deal.

There is jade in Alaska that can be carved and the Eskimos known how to carve ivory. Why not carve jade. Don't let the white grabbers get the jade away from the Eskimos like they have everything the native has had in America.

Major Marsden is championing the Eskimo on the jade, and Mr. Don Foster will put the Eskimo back in his place in the reindeer industry. In the Milwaukee Journal of October 17, 1945, Major Marsden takes the rights of the Eskimo in hand in four columns. He is on the right track.

In the reindeer the Eskimo was going ahead in the industry, till greedy whites got to thinking the industry was a chance for the Get-Rich-Wallingford promoter, and in 1907, the man who established the industry in Alaska for the Eskimo, Dr. Sheldon Jackson, was thrown out on his head. In 1924 W. T. Lopp who built up the industry to over one hundred thousand animals, was slid out on the political skid road by the same influences. Finally when the industry got to number about half a million or more reindeer, politics put a man in charge who knew nothing of reindeer management, and who did not care a — about the Eskimo. The result now is that there are only 65,000 left of the 599,825 turned over to politics in 1929 and the native has given up in part and gone to consuming booze for the booze-peddler and the bootlegger.

Now is the time for Major Marsden and Superintendent Foster to clean up this business of booze and the stuff that goes with it, and to get the Eskimo boys back on the right track. There are plenty of them who will be glad to have the herds that were mixed in an omelet in the years from 1914 on to 1922 and afterward, and which politics has allowed to remain mixed until fif-

REINDEER SLAUGHTERED FOR MARKET FROM NUNIVAK ISLAND

The U. S. Reindeer Service butchered from the Government herd on Nunivak Island 2,000 fawns during August, 1945. The skins were to be prepared for the use of the Nome Association of skin workers, for the making of garments for the U. S. Navy, states the *Jessen's Weekly* of Nov. 25, 1945. The meat will be sold at 16c a pound at Nunivak.

As the natives are the ones who would be the purchasers of all the meat sold locally, this is hardly a fair proposition. There are about 200 natives. It was intended that reindeer be placed on the Island for their use, as was done with other natives in Alaska. The corporation put reindeer there first, against the rights of the natives who certainly had some rights on the land that had been their home for all time. The corporation charged the natives 15c a pound, the natives to kill the deer, and pack in the meat. Now the Government buys the reindeer, pastured on native lands and sells the meat to the natives at 16c a pound. The reindeer were supposed to have been imported for the native use and education. Nunivak is probably the best reindeer range in Alaska, unless it is on Kodiak Island.

The skins are valued at \$8 each it is stated. This is a high price, as skins imported from Siberia over 20 years ago sold at Nome for \$7 each. Points in Alaska will be supplied from Dutch Harbor.

A second killing is scheduled for a later date, and one still later, for meat for sale in summer of 1946. 27,000 pounds of meat will be shipped to Nome by the "Meteor", owned by Frank Williams. (*Jessen's Weekly* Nov. 2, 1945, p. 28).

teen herds are a *pot pouree* where no herd owner knows where his deer are, how many there are left, or where to find them.

Strength for Marsden and Foster, and Eskimo gets help to do business in a proper way. Seal hunting may suit some, but reindeer work and ivory and jade carving is better for some others. Some of your boys are building up a reputation as sailor men, some as artists, one is making a mark in music. But out the booze and get the reindeer going, get a claim where you can get out all the jade you need for a hundred years, and don't let some skinflint beat you out of it.

GIVE THE NATIVE A SQUARE DEAL

The Eskimos have not had a square deal in their reindeer industry, since 1914 when the first spearhead was stabbed into their herds, by a mercenary corporation.

In 1907 Rules and Regulations for the management of the reindeer industry were made. It was provided:

"Section 1. The supervision of the reindeer herds and stations in Alaska shall be included in the duties of the district superintendents of schools for natives in Alaska. The boundaries of supervision districts shall be laid down . . ."

"Section 5. Each herd of reindeer shall be under the immediate supervision of a local superintendent of the reindeer station who shall have the oversight of apprentices, herders, reindeer herd, and public property connected therewith . . . the teacher or principal of the United States public school shall be the local superintendent of the reindeer station."

"Section 29. No female reindeer shall be sold or otherwise disposed of to any person other than a resident native of Alaska. Such sale or disposal may be made only with the written approval of the local superintendent and the district superintendent of schools and in the form presented by the Bureau of Education . . ."

"Section 36. All reindeer received by a mission, and apprentice, or a herder, and the increase thereof, shall be held by said mission, apprentice or herder, his heirs or assigns, subject to these Rules and Regulations, or any revision thereof and any contracts entered into thereunder."

(Rules and Regulations . . . Reindeer Service in Alaska. Approved June 10, 1907. Washington Government Printing Office).

In 1914 the industry of the natives was so successful that it became the object of envy and mercenary desire of white men. A corporation was formed, with paid up capital of about \$100,000 and organized for the purpose of attacking the native industry, which had been initiated for the express purpose of educating the native to be a herdsman and to become owners of reindeer.

The corporation bought four separate herds of missions and Lapps who had been made loans for the purpose of facilitating the distribution of the reindeer to natives and to secure the natives becoming herdsmen.

The missions had failed in making full dis-

tribution of deer to their apprentices and accumulated herds which they sold to the corporation in defiance of the above regulations.

The corporation, by these purchases, drove wedges, like military salients, into the native owned herds, and took possession of the lands hereditarily possessed by the natives.

The corporations took possession of the native owned reindeer that had been distributed to the natives, calling them "CO-OWNER" and assumed full control.

The corporation defied the Superintendent's authority, it disdained the Rules and Regulations quoted above. In a letter to the superintendent an officer of the corporation stated:

"You say that the supervision of the reindeer in-so-far as to the Eskimo is under the supervision of the Bureau of Education and that you should have been consulted before making 'radical changes'. It may be that you have supervision over the Eskimo; but why pick on us?"

A suit in court was asked by the Secretary of the Interior against the sale of deer by a mission. It was delayed by excuses and pressure for five years and then was brought against the corporation, instead of against the mission that sold the reindeer.

The suit was dismissed without trial, and a letter was issued by the Department of Justice saying:

"I beg to advise you that I am today in receipt of instructions from the Department of Justice to drop this appeal, and in accordance with such instructions no further steps will be taken toward appeal."

(Letter Ira D. Orton, page 419, Hearings of Kendrick Reindeer Committee, Office of the Secy. of Int., Washington, D. C.).

In the story above mentioned, it said something about influence. "I have had pressure put on me so long I no longer give a damn."

It would seem that for more than twenty years nothing but pressure has been put on the natives. In 1922 the president of the corporation that drove the spearheads into the native reindeer herds, was appointed United States Judge for the district where the attack was made. It has been pressure ever since.

These are the reasons for a change, and of giving the natives justice.

(Continued on Page Four)

"COAST GUARD MEN IMPORT REINDEER"

"The crew of the cutter and Aleutian natives rounded up 30 head of antlered beauties on St. Matthew's Island, carried them aboard, fed them tundra grass enroute to their new home. We rounded up more than a thousand, in a conventional drive, whooping and firing our rifles, said Chandick! We selected 30 of the best." (*Jessen's Weekly*, July 12, 1945, p. 18).

The reindeer were put ashore on a barren Bering Sea island."

The first thing is, whose deer did they round up at St. Matthew's Island? It is not generally known that there are reindeer on St. Matthew's Island.

Next thing, how will the reindeer live on a barren Bering Sea Island?

SETTLERS COME OVER ALCAN HIGHWAY

Mrs. Ferris L. Price and two sons coming on the highway as far as White Horse, where an official prevented them traveling farther on the truck on which they had come that far, finished their journey to Fairbanks by airplane. (*Jessen's Weekly*, July 20, 1945)

GIVE THE NATIVE A SQUARE DEAL

(Continued from Page Three)

COSTS OF NEW EXPERIMENTS OF PAST TEN YEARS

In 1937 the Interior Department took all management of native owned deer out of the hands of the owners. Herding, rounding up, killing, shipping and sale, and this was done by a law dictated by the Secretary.

EXPENSE OF MANAGEMENT OF THIS CHANGE

The Government paid in 1940 for purchase of reindeer extracted from the intention of the Government in procuring the animals and importing them for the education of the natives, \$328,614. For rounding up and counting, etc. \$75,000. For equipment on non-native ranges \$112,925.72.

(Taylor, Hon. Edward T. *Saving the Eskimos and Reindeer from Extinction*, Gov't. Ptg. Office, Washington, D. D. 1940).

There have been appropriations for each year of from \$75,000 to \$95,000 paid since that time, and what has been done? How many herds are under domestication?

It is time for a change, and it is hoped it is at hand.

CANNERY EMPLOYEES MUST BELONG TO LABOR UNION

It is stated that an order of 12th Regional War Labor Board, is that employees in the fisheries in Alaska must belong to Labor Unions. This is a new power of the Government, and an unjust one, that a person shall belong to any organization to work in public or private employment. It should be a right of any citizen of the United States to work at any place where men are required without the worker having to join any association and pay fees and dues to that organization.

Is the government or the administration promoting and protecting certain organizations to the detriment of the general public who have the right to labor without paying dues and assessments to societies or organizations?

A NEW REINDEER POLICY

(Continued from Page One)

calculate will be required to finance the association's operations during the year which ends April 1, 1941.

The shares probably represent reindeer.

The reindeer industry for the natives had been conducted without such machinery for forty years, and with success.

Since the time this proposed "Treasury Account" was organized and assessed, the whole native industry has fallen into practical ruin.

There has been a large union corral built at which 70 deer were taken for dog food for dog teams used in building. There seems to have been no need for this corral. Each herd had its corral before this circular was promulgated. There was no need for it. It was just a "Master Mixer" of herds.

The Eskimo asks that this be investigated and the excrescence on the reindeer industry be lopped off.

The management up to 1929 was successful. Today the management from that time has destroyed and lost about nine-tenths of the reindeer in Alaska. Now is the time to get the industry back on its feet. This management has been an absolute failure.

Get the reindeer industry of the natives back into native owner management. Let each man have his herd and take care of it for the business is only adapted to small personal ownership, and hired men cannot be depended to handle property of others, in those northern storms, when the wolf is working.

THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 13, No. 2

EUGENE, OREGON

APRIL, 1946

RESTORING THE REINDEER INDUSTRY

Since the January, 1946 Eskimo was issued, a letter has been received from Mr. Don C. Foster, General Superintendent of the Reindeer Service, stating among other information, that "We held the Reindeer Meeting, as previously scheduled, with the reindeer managers in Nome the first week in January. While there recently has not been an actual count of all reindeer now existing in Alaska we nevertheless feel that 65,000 head would be a conservative and reasonably reliable estimate. It may reach 68,000. As you know some of the association deer are not being herded."

This statement is correct as far as it goes. But a proper understanding of the situation requires a study of thirty years of attack, and abuse of the natives who were in the reindeer work, and who in the beginning were herding and caring for their herds. This was mainly on the Seward Peninsula, and covers the herds mentioned above as not being herded.

The meeting of the reindeer managers above mentioned being held at Nome, were the men who had been managing the reindeer business for five years past. The owners of the reindeer had no part in the management. In 1937 a law was passed which removed all "control, all round-ups, handlings, markings and butcherings of reindeer upon said public lands. . . .", and placed the control in the hands of the Secretary of the Interior". (Public—No. 413—75th Congress) (Chapter 807—1st Session) (S1722).

In 1907, the Secretary of the Interior made Rules and Regulations regarding the United States Reindeer Service in Alaska; Approved June 10, 1907, and December 7, 1907. (Government Ptg. Office, Washington, 1911).

Rules and Regulations shall be in force on and after July 1, 1907.

DISTRICT SUPERVISION

Section 1.

The supervision of the reindeer herds in Alaska shall be included in the duties of the district superintendents of schools for natives in

Alaska. The boundaries of supervision districts shall be distinctly laid down and may be changed from time to time by the Commissioner of Education with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, due notice of such change being given to employees of the Government of the United States who may be concerned.

Section 2.

It shall be the duty of the district superintendent of schools in any district in which reindeer herds are located, subject to these rules and regulations and any revision thereof, to exercise general supervision over the reindeer herds and stations in his district, he shall visit and inspect the stations esilya accessible in his district quarterly. And in the more remot e localities as often as may be practicable and consistent with weather conditions but each station shall be visited at least once in each fiscal year.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 29. No female reindeer shall be sold or otherwise disposed of to any other than a resident native of Alaska. Such sale or disposal may be made only with the written approval of the local superintendent, and the district superintendent of schools and in the form provided by the Bureau of Education. No representative of the Bureau of Education shall approve of the sale or of the disposal of any female reindeer to any person other than a resident native of Alaska; . . . But nothing in this section shall prevent the purchase of female reindeer by the Government of the United States. . . .

Section 35. All deer received by a mission, an apprentice or a herder and the increase thereof, shall be held, by said mission, apprentice, or herder, their heirs or assigns, subject to these Rules and Regulations, or any revision thereof and any contracts entered into thereunder. . . ."

The U.S. statutes provide that any rules or regulations issued by a department are entitled to have the authority of law.

MANAGEMENT OF REINDEER UNDER THE BUREAU OF EDUCATION

The reindeer handled by the Bureau of Education followed the usage of the Norwegian Laplanders, and included herding the animals, and

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making records of the herds and reporting the work at the herds, including the disposition of the animals, the number killed and the reason for same, "Killed fighting", "killed by buck", "broken leg" and others. Every animal was accounted for during many years. Every herd was counted.

The natives cared for their herds, they kept their accounts and reported to the head office, each year and as completely as white men could or would of a herd. Sometimes the local Superintendent helped by keeping a tally, and my experience was that the native tally was as correct as that of the teacher. If they have not been destroyed in recent years, these old accounts are still on the files at the Nome Office, and at Kotzebue. Barrow records were destroyed in a fire at the school house. I furnished the herd a copy of the 1924 count from a copy I made in 1924 when making an inspection of the district for the Superintendent.

In 1913 white men began to get envious. They saw the natives getting along and raising herds of deer. The natives for nearly thirty years did this, in spite of a corporation being formed and attacking their industry, in 1914 by buying a Lap herd directly in violation of the Rules and Regulations herein quoted. The Lap had no right to sell the deer to any but a native of Alaska. The corporation followed by buying the Swedish herd at Unalakleet which was entrusted to them to raise reindeer to distribute to their native orphan charges. This was violating the conditions under which they were entrusted with the animals. And the Rules and Regulations as quoted. This was followed by purchase of the Golovin Swedish Mission herd, in 1915, and the Norwegian Lutheran mission deer at Teller in 1916. This was a direct attack against the industry created for the use of the natives whose hereditary livelihood had been taken by the white whalers and traders on the Arctic Ocean. Next the herds of Thomas Sokweena and John Hadley, men who had learned their work and earned reindeer at six to ten deer a year, and built up a little herd for each on what was known as the Buckland range.

The corporation with help of Lapps and an officer of the Biological Survey took both these

herds and absorbed them in the corporation herd in 1921. All these natives owning deer thus taken, were deprived of the management of their herds. They had been free citizens, owning their reindeer and keeping the deer on lands that the Eskimo people have possessed since time immemorial. They were deprived of lands and reindeer. They were charged for keeping their own deer on their own lands. Sokweena was charged \$926 or thereabout for one year for his deer. He died about two years ago, begging for ten deer to eat and use to make skin clothing for his family and after being deprived of them.

They made their living by hunting, trapping and fishing etc.

The native owned reindeer in the Lomen herds were culled for deer for the market in the States, and the owners got nothing. The northern herds had only the Boxer and the North Star, government boats taking school supplies to distant posts and bringing back reindeer carcasses, 500 in one, 2,000 in the other. The government took these boats off the native work and sent them to Byrd to catch penguins. The natives could not get enough sale of deer to consume their surplus. The ranges were getting overstocked. Chief of the service W. T. Lopp sent a herd to the country on the government railway, to relieve the overstock. He had got the Boxed and the North Star for the shipping. They were finally taken into the Navy during the war. The natives were reindeer poor, like some farmers, land poor with no market.

The corporation not able to make their business pay, turned to absorbing the native deer as a lifebuoy. It saw it could not be done till they got rid of the men who were in charge of the native work. Shields died in the Spanish influenza outbreak following the First World War. He was disgusted by men he thought were his friends, attacking the industry to which he was giving his lifework. Sheldon Jackson who founded the reindeer industry, was put out by political undermining. W. T. Lopp, chief of the reindeer work was slid out by Bureaucratic influences, after 34 years work in the field and at the head.

The Biological Survey came into the conflict and joined the Corporation, advocating percentage marking instead of by mark of owners, making one mark on the fawn; and another on the mother, which in a cattle country causes gun practice. The open herding, "like cattle on western ranges", was convenient for producing mavericks. This started the non-herding that is just now being found is poor reindeer management.

THE CAMPAIGN OF THE CORPORATION

The Corporation was not paying expenses. It was cramped for funds. It borrowed \$316,000. It could not pay the interest. The industry is only a business for the man who will live with his herd, have his boys and girls grown up in the business, like most farmers. The Corporation rustled on adjoining native herds, it spread the theory that it should be carried on like the cattle business out West. That let deer scatter, they were easy to maverick. The natives did not know the tricks of the cattle range.

The Corporation promoted for more money. The president of the Corporation was talented as a promoter, and he knew how to hob nob in Washington. He sought connections with Senators. A powerful senator was a political friend of Judge Gudbrand J. Lomen. Lomen was the organizer of the Lomen & Co. Corporation. He resigned to sit on the bench ten years and his son came to be called the Reindeer King, Carl J. Lomen.

The Corporation, through Mr. Carl J. Lomen, secured \$1,200,000 in New York. The Corporation went into mining, into the transportation business, into the trading with the Eskimos. It aspired to control the whole Northwest of Alaska in a business way, a successor to the Russian American Company, and the great fur company the Alaska Commercial Company.

It formed a holding company and subordinate companies, of which one was the Alaska Livestock and Packing Company. The reindeer were incorporated at \$4,325,000.00 claiming 250,000 head, and valued at an average on the range uncounted, of \$17.00 a head and promoted a sale of stock to the dear public.

The stock did not sell well on the market to the deer people. The natives protested encroachments. The petitions asked separation of to the deer people. The natives protested deer had been held from the owners and that every man be compelled to herd his stock.

REINDEER FROM BUREAU OF EDUCATION TO THE GOVERNOR

Politics in Washington, caused the Bureau of Education control of the reindeer to be turned over to the Governor of the Territory. The corporation considered it a victory. It began by making RANGE RULES for reindeer, presumed to be a function of the Department of the Government in charge. The rules declared the corporation would take the reindeer of the natives that were in their herd, in payment of herd bills at \$3 a head. It offered \$3 a head for picked butchering stock in adjoining herds. This

was below the cost of production, and was intended as a mopping up of native herds. (Range Rules Lomen Corp. Sept. 1, 1929).

The Department revoked the rules against sale of female deer, June 20th, 1929, evidently opening the way for corporation Range Rules on purchase of the native reindeer.

September 18th the corporation issued notice to the Bureau of Education that it would pay no more than \$3 for deer.

October 3rd, 1929, the reindeer were transferred to the Governor of Alaska, who knew nothing of reindeer management.

In October, 1929, the Governor issued a telegram to the field force, telling them to advise the natives to sell at \$3.

The Corporation thought it was in the saddle and could ride.

But a protest was made by a party in the interest of the natives saying ten thousand native owned reindeer held by the corporation. Asking they be returned to owners, and that herds be separated, and ranges defined, reindeer counted, herded and kept on range of owner as asked by Shields in 1915.

This petition was pigeonholed in Washington till the newspapers dug it out and published it. An investigation was forced and on the report the Kendrick Reindeer Committee was appointed to advise action.

HEARINGS OF KENDRICK REINDEER COMMITTEE

The Kendrick Reindeer Committee, was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior "to consider the reindeer controversies and problems of Alaska". It was composed of Senator John B. Kendrick, of Wyoming, Chairman; Judge Charles P. Sisson, Assistant Attorney General, and Hos Scott Leavitt of Montana. It met in Washington, D.C. Feb. 13, 1931, in the office of the Secretary of the Interior.

Senator Kendrick was a personal friend of Mr. Lomen, president of Lomen Reindeer Company. Judge Sisson had just returned from Alsaka and had advised the return of Judge Lomen, former President of Lomen & Co., to the bench in the 2nd Division where this controversy was raging.

The protest for the natives was not brought before the Committee. There was no native reindeer owner present. Mr. Lomen figured prominently as president of the Lomen Corporation.

Senator Kendrick observed that; he was not so much concerned in hearing the review of the

past as we are to have suggestions as to the way out." (Hearings Kendrick Committee p. 52).

A Proposed Plan for Handling Reindeer on Seward Peninsula, appears at page 150 without explanation or apology. It begins by stating: "The original object for the introduction of domesticated reindeer into Alaska has long since been fulfilled" . . .

"The Eskimo has lost interest in the reindeer" . . .

"No outlet has been provided for the Eskimo herds." . . .

Then it goes on to provide for taking charge of all handling of the products of the native herds, (Id. Hgs. p. 150 et seq.).

This is signed and presented by the president of the Lomen Reindeer Company. It proposes to handle by the percentage commission plan. Mr. Baldwin, stockholder, and Mr. Lomen, president, of the Lomen Reindeer press the adoption of their PROPOSED PLAN for about 250 pages. Then Judge Wickersham appeared; (Judge Wickersham was delegate for Alaska, elected by the people to represent the Territory in Washington before Congress) at the Kendrick committee. (Page 410 of Hearings Kendrick Reindeer Committee, Washington, D. C.)

He read, from the hearings of the PROPOSED PLAN, "The original object of the introduction of domesticated reindeer into Alaska has long since been fulfilled."

He said: "It will never be fulfilled as long as there are any differences up there. Those natives are the same class and kind of people that they were when these reindeer were brought there. They are natives and they are, as my friend Mr. Lomen said of them, 12 year-old children and I do not know but that an expression was used by him or someone that reduced them to six-year-old children. Well 12-year-old then. The government is dealing with 12-year-old children, the government is, and the Lomens are. . . . And 12-year-old children cannot look out for themselves against a shrewd, active business man like Carl Lomen. Somebody must look after these natives and their interest in this matter and I am sure the committee will see that it is done. But to say that this matter is all fulfilled is all a mistake; it is only just begun.

After nine hearings the committee adjourned, advising a Council be appointed, consisting of the Governor of Alaska, the Supervisor of Reindeer, a member of the Lomen Corporation and a representative of the natives.

The Council met at Nome June 18th, 1931. The Lomen member tried to put over the com-

bining the Lomen herd with the native herds in Teller Unit. He got the Unit plan adopted as proposed in the PLAN in the Committee, but did not succeed in combining the herds.

It was again tried in 1923 at the second meeting.

Meantime Lyman S. Brewster, an attorney, from Montana was appointed as an expert, to study the reindeer. In December, 1932 he tried to put over a Convention to combine the native and Lomen reindeer in the Teller Unit, in a sort of partnership. It was a secret meeting to try to put over the Unit combination so it could be used to secure a loan for the Corporation, of \$750,000 of the RFC, and other advantages for the corporation. It adjourned having laid its groundwork of the plan.

SECOND REINDEER CONVENTION

Mr. Brewster considered he had accomplished a victory, he arranged for a second convention to secure the consent of the natives, then went East for his reward. He was appointed as the reindeer supervisor of the district, in place of Mr. B. B. Mozee.

The Second Reindeer Convention met April 20th, 1933. The natives came. They elected their chairman, threw the Unit combination out of the window, discussed their business and returned home.

Now why do they say the Native has lost interest?

There is a new General Superintendent, and a new Supervisor. It is hoped that they may get acquainted with the native people, will return the reindeer to the owners, and change the management that has been since 1929 when there were 599,825 reindeer transferred to the Governor from the Bureau of Education, and only about 65,000 remain. I believe that a change of policy is apparent in the past year and that it may bring results. The management must learn about the business themselves, must know the people and understand that they are human, and in their way are just as human and capable as the average white man, and a great deal more patient under insult and uncivil treatment than some who attempt to manage them. Give them their deer. Let them lose them if they must, they earned them—they just as well lose them as to let someone else lose them and they look on with their thumbs in their mouths. It is time to cease trying to put all the blame for the debacle on the natives. Most of it is due to the fact that he has been pursued by a merciless enemy ever since 1914, which has left the native and the industry completely demoralized.

THE ONLY ESKIMO PAPER IN THE UNITED STATES

THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 13, No. 4

EUGENE, OREGON

OCTOBER, 1946

AN APOLOGY

The ESKIMO offers an apology for the tardiness of the October issue. It is regretted that the data of the work of the fiscal year 1946, has not been received, and has caused late publication. Two letters of inquiry have not elicited the reason for the delay. It is hoped that by January it may be included.

Sales of Reindeer from Nunivak Island

The sales of reindeer from Nunivak Island, the price realized, the cost of the placing on the market, might be of interest to some people, both white and native owners who were squeezed into selling deer to the corporation at \$2 and \$3 per head, delivered at corporation corrals, which these deer produced on lands hereditarily owned by the natives of Nunivak had their lands absorbed by the corporation while the reindeer service legally were entitled to the management of the reindeer as shown by the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department. Also those reindeer placed on Nunivak Island were in the hands of the corporation in violation of those same Rules and Regulations.

The Government, in order to get out of the unfortunate position caused by the violations of the Rules and Regulations of the Interior Department bought the reindeer on Nunivak. Is it trying to recoup itself by selling the deer to clear its costs, or to profit by the reindeer brought to Alaska for the special relief of the natives who suffered by the invasion of the whalers. The native now seems to be holding the bag in the snipe hunt.

Education of the Eskimo

The education of the natives of Alaska was the avowed intention of the introduction of the reindeer into Alaska. The natives were to be educated in the schools, and to be educated in the industry of stock raising, by handling the reindeer. The reindeer education applied to the cold and partially barren northern part.

Until 1914 this policy was followed. Schools were placed from Southeastern Alaska to Barrow. Herds of reindeer were established from Umnak Island to Barrow. Native Eskimo boys

had been instructed by competent superintendents who had the interest of the Eskimo at heart, and with assistance of Lap herders procured in Norway, to learn the work until it was acknowledged that the Eskimo herders were equal to the Lap instructors. The quickest drives in Alaska and with the least loss were made by Eskimo herders. Their control of the animals was conceded to be skillful.

Eskimo herders, under direction of W. T. Lopp of Wales, prepared for a drive of 700 miles in 1898, in an Eskimo village about 200 miles from an established trading depot. In about 10 days they prepared for the journey. They crossed Kotzebue Sound at the mouth, from Cape Espenberg to Cape Kruzenstern, about fifty miles of practically open ocean, reached Barrow March 31st, making about 15 miles a day. In a storm 30 deer got separated from the drive. A herder stayed, collected the 30 deer and drove them to Point Hope. The drive crossed the Brooks Range about 50 miles east of Pt. Hope.

The famous Lap, Andy Bahr, "The Arctic Moses" was from August to December 26, 1929 getting his herd ready, he shipped supplies from Kotzebue up the Kobuk River. The first winter he reached Hunt River, one hundred miles, crossing the native Selawik range and pasturing on it, summered between the Noatak and Shungnak native herds, grazing on their range, crossed the Brooks Range to the Colville River and summered on the native ranges there. Mox Muller in his THE GREAT TREX, says of it, "But the climax was the speed with which this big herd cleaned off the moss from the new country." (p. 132). Another side was expressed by the owners of herds belonging to natives who owned the range. The herd remained on these ranges the summer of 1930.

The herd on the drive picked up native owned deer and could not cut them out. Panigeo of Barrow, reported when he wrote to Barrow. "I killed three female deer of ours which got into their herd." He preferred killing them to seeing them driven to Canada (Letter May 9, 1932).

Otis, another reindeer man, native, went to the intruding herd to see if any of his deer were there. The Lap did not know. Otis went through the herd, found about 30 of his deer. "Can't you tell the difference between your deer and ours?" he asked.

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"How many legs have your deer?" asked the Lap.

That was a sample of Lap humor.

Porsild, the Canadian agent who arranged the purchase of the reindeer for Canada, met the deer here, trying to hurry the drive. The herd was gathered and moved on in 1932.

After five years and three months the drive reached Richard Island, in the delta of the Mackenzie and checked out 2,370 reindeer to the Canadian Government. The drive started with 3,400 reindeer. There were five crops of fawns dropped and there were 2,370 reindeer delivered.

Is this a part of that scientific management drawn upon so positively by the Planning Committee, in estimating the possibility of the industry under the management it supports?

Reconstruction of Reindeer Industry

In rehabilitating the reindeer industry it will be well to take some pages from the experience of the Bureau of Education and discard the bunk that was passed out by the corporation that tried to take the deer bodily from the Eskimos who built up herds from six to ten deer a year in learning how to manage the animals and who gave four years to the job.

The present plan seems to be to hand out a herd to each of 500 natives who have returned as GI's from the war, and loan them funds with which to carry on the business, build houses, etc. A nomadic herder cannot move much of a house.

Even the Laps who came as a part of the relief expedition to the Klondike miners, and who were partly of Laps, and with them Norwegians and Finns, the loan was of only 100 reindeer each.

It seems to be part of the plan to lend or to put in charge of from 500 to 1,000 in a herd to Eskimos who are not experienced. I have a rumor that an Eskimo has been given a loan, who, though he had worked with reindeer and was given a herd to handle as a chief herder, for Elektoons, at Kivalina in 1923 but before a month lost his whole herd. He let them get away, and scatter to four other herds. It is not likely that the experience of the past twenty years has taught him enough to handle even his loaned herd. He has been among people who have lost some capability, it seems for the Kivalina herd was increased by various means,

under the new policies, of big herds and letting them run like cattle, consequence of which is, a part of the boasted new and scientific methods practiced by a corporation with over a million in cash, went so near insolvent that the United States was compelled to bail them out of bankruptcy.

No such loans as 500 or 1,000 can be given to the young returned veteran. Army life is not a good training for reindeer herding. He must study a different life and habit.

Even the Eskimos of Alaska, who have been near the activities of war time, are more or less spoiled. There are too many booze joints and poolhalls in the towns. That is what ruined the Nome herd and the Quartz Creek herds. First, they lost so many before they had the wolves that they had to combine the two herds into one to make a herd. Next, the herd was lost is the opinion of the owners.

The farther from the white man's town, the better the Eskimo always is. And big pay has spoiled those at the towns. They will not go back to the life of a herdsman, like the apprentices of 1894 did when Tautuk, Nellarook, Keok and Allokeok were trained as old time herders, on Seward Peninsula. When the Nome herd disappeared, Tautuk's deer were in the loss. Nellarook had deer in Shaktolik and Bonanza. Those herds got scattered. Nellarook and Okitkoon saved some deer from those herds and kept them a while until the management took them away from the herders and put them with the few deer found at Shaktolik. The Shaktolik herders lost that herd again. Nellarook gathered part up again, and was keeping them, but was drafted into the Army. If he is released he probably will collect some of the old herd if possible.

Condition of Reindeer Herds In 1916 Thirty Years Ago

Not having the report of conditions in the reindeer industry in Alaska in 1946, brief mention of the situation in 1916, at the time the Corporation had attacked it, and had forcibly taken out of the hands of the Legal Superintendent, the herds at Kotzebue, at Unalakleet, at Golovin and at Teller, disrupting the organization of the native industry, splitting the native herds at four different places, and endeavoring to control the shipping points. These wedges driven into the native herds on the Seward Peninsula, indicated an endeavor to push farther toward the center and eventually to absorb all the reindeer of the peninsula, an area about twice the size of the state of Maryland. This intention is confirmed by later action intended to drive the wedges to the center of the Peninsula. The attacks were made at Kotzebue Sound, at Golovin Bay and at Port Clarence. Superintendent Shields had made a survey and ascertained the boundaries claimed by each native herd in the

Peninsula, had outlined them by watercourse, divide of watershed, or other landmark. He asked for allotment of these lands by the Department, in order to avoid contests over range. This request was not heeded consequently it has led to troublesome controversy.

The condition of the industry in 1916, four years before the date the Planning Board makes insidious remarks about no improvements being made in management, was a total of 82,151 reindeer all of which were by the intention of the founding of the industry, to be for the benefit of the natives of Alaska. To found a system of support for those natives who had been deprived of their natural means of livelihood by the destruction of the whales, walrus and other wild life. About from seven to ten thousand of these reindeer had been alienated, by unfair mercenary methods in 1914 to 1916 and a suit had been asked for by the Interior Department, to establish the ownership in the Reindeer Service.

There were under the native industry, other than alienated by the attack, still owned by the natives, 56,045. (Report of Bureau of Education for 1916, p. 18).

The reindeer work, outside of the aggressions by mercenary influences, was in good condition, and the reindeer handled by the methods approved by Norway, Sweden and Finland, the most advanced in reindeer management in the world. There were 85 herds, and they were extended from Barrow to the Pribilof islands and Umnak Island of the Aleutian Chain.

This progress continued, notwithstanding the attacks made, especially by a corporation which invested about a million and one half dollars and managed the reindeer so poorly that in 1940 the Government had to purchase their holdings to bail them out of bankruptcy. The industry increased until 1929, when the herds numbered 599,825 animals. The Bureau of Education was removed from the management in 1929, and the herds have decreased to about 40 and the number of deer to an estimated 65,000 in 1946.

The statement made by the Planning Board for Alaska with reference to the methods and management are utterly unfair and incorrect.

The reindeer should be counted, which has not been done unless the report of 1946, due June 30, shows a count made in that fiscal year. The ownership should be ascertained, and each owner restored to the proper persons or cooperative associations. They had successfully handled their business to 1929. The lack of sale of their products in order to secure funds with which to pay expenses has been one of the great obstacles to the prosperity of the native people. Had they not been interfered with, and a reasonable direction and education given, the communities should have prospered. The people would have been able to send their children for higher education, in industrial and other occupa-

tions. As it is, the Eskimos are eking out an existence in the outlying parts, much as they did 50 years ago, by hunting and fishing, and what they secure to pay for food and clothing of the white man, they get from trapping. The fur is reduced in quantity over most of the area. White men are intruding. A white man will put out a hundred trap line, where the Eskimo will set perhaps 25. Traders who have come to the country to live off the Eskimo by trading with them also trap and compete with them in that manner.

Building Up an Industry

The corporation and its boosters talked loudly about building up an industry. It built up no industry—it bought into an industry already established from Barrow to the Aleutian Islands. It attacked an industry and attempted to absorb it, and Get-Rich-Quick-Wallingford, at the expense and by the efforts of the Eskimos.

Condition of the Industry in 1916

The Eskimos had in 1916 as stated above over 82,000 reindeer. They had 84 herders, and 143 apprentices. They had 1,752 sled deer trained, and 361 sled deer being trained. Their income from sale of products was \$91,430.

It is hoped that the Eskimo will be able to secure and publish the results of the work in 1946 for the January issue.

Herding vs. Open Herding

Herding means in practice, in being in charge of the herd at all times, watching them at all times, especially when predatory animals are about.

The herding system is practiced in all countries in which reindeer are bred. It was so with the Bureau of Education until the advent of the corporation and the Biological Survey corrupted the practice. The Bureau continued to endeavor to keep the Eskimos herding until the close of their management. The northern herders kept up the herding until 1929, the year their supervision by the Bureau expired.

The corporation talked of herding and charged the natives fees for it, on the natives who had deer in their herds. It was a subterfuge with the corporation, almost from the first. They let their reindeer scatter where the deer chose, and rounded them up regardless of what or whose range upon which they were found, or whose reindeer it collected. As a consequence the corporation soon had in its herds ten thousand or more of native owned reindeer.

By the running loose of the reindeer, many deer were not found on the roundup. These deer dropped fawns, those fawns not being marked at yearlings, became mavericks. To soften the term, and to get deer that were unmarked to two and more years, the corporation adopted the device of calling all unmarked deer they found in their roundup "yearlings".

They applied the rule of the cattle range that

mavericks belonged to the range where found. Then in at least two different cases they reversed the rule, rounded up deer on native owned ranges drove them to corporation carrols, marked the mavericks found on the native range as deer of the corporation. In one case the corporation had cultivated a maverick stock of 135% on the deer of the Lomsomin-Kotzebue range.

On the Buckland range through the taking of native owned Buckland deer the corporation had about as many Buckland deer as there were corporation owned.

In 1925, 633 Corporation Kotzebue herd female deer appeared in Buckland herd. The Kotzebue herd claimed 135% of unmarked deer (Mavericks) from the Buckland range which is an unprecedented condition. It claimed 135% of fawns on the 633 female deer. It was reversing the rule that the mavericks belong to the range. But the corporation put it over on the natives, and drove out over 1,900 deer on the 633 females, widows, with no males accompanying them. Never in reindeer history had 633 females deserted their companions and gone away in a bunch.

In another case from Wales, the corporation had deer that had entered Wales (Cape) herd. It wished to get them out. Its chief herder went to the corral of the Wales herd and demanded deer that Wales had rounded up, to drive to Teller. It should have cut out the deer in their mark and taken those deer to their corrals and marked the increase.

They dominated the natives till they got about 3,000 deer already rounded up by Wales and mixed with Wales reindeer. They drove the herd to Teller, and marked every unmarked deer to Teller-Corporation herd.

This is another of their undeniable operations.

Biological Survey Opinion On Herding

"Under present handling the tendency is to close herding and graze the reindeer more on the order of old methods of handling range sheep. The tendency should be toward open herding and grazing, more like the handling of range cattle in the western states." (Bull., 1089, Sept. 22, 1922, p. 28.

In Alaska the reindeer should be under direct observation of the armed hunter, at all times and a night watch if any wolves are about. This is the usage in Sweden I am informed.

The Biological Survey worked with the corporation herds, checked at their markings and attended their butcherings. It knew that at Teller, Golovin, and Buckland there were nearly as many native owned deer in corporation herds as were owned by the corporation and they made no inquiries as to the reason. At Buckland Mr. Lawrence J. Palmer an officer of the Biological Survey, advised the natives to let the corporation handle their reindeer. This resulted in the largest owner and one who had managed and built

up his herd, was charged herding fees in 1924 to about \$960. The foreman of the Corporation was a Lap, and he was paid \$2,000 a year. This native, after his herd had been used by the corporation from 1922 to 1940, died a few years ago, begging for ten deer to use for food and clothing for his family.

Appropriations for the Industry

From 1913 to 1918, the annual appropriations for the reindeer management, were but \$5,000. In 1921 the Biological Survey received \$40,000. In 1922, received \$46,000. It is alleged to have received about \$900,000 during its work in Alaska, and what did it accomplish? Year after year it drew funds for the U.S. and from the Territory of Alaska. And its usual report was "Progress", and its specialty was the warble fly, which warbles just as it has for a century on cattle on the range.

The largest annual appropriation of the Bureau of Education was \$25,000 during its building up the reindeer industry to 1929.

The appropriations for the years 1942 to 1945 for the reindeer work were: in 1942, \$90,740; for 1943 was \$95,879; for 1944 was \$90,000; and for 1945, \$90,000.

What was done with the money? What was accomplished?

Wolves

The wolf pestilence seems to be abating somewhat. But the reindeer south of the Kuskokwim have all disappeared. A pack of wolves has been reported to have crossed on the ice to Nunivak, but definite information is not given of their kill. Four wolves are reported to have been killed from a plane near Teller. In 1945 the Johnson herd of reindeer on the Kuskokwim was reported to have all been killed to save them from wolves. This is a new resort in the stock raising.

As long as the reindeer were herded there was no great loss from the wolves—but when half a million reindeer were turned loose with no one to guard them it is not strange that wolves bred fast and others came from Canada and coyotes from Montana.

As long as white men keep domestic animals they will be compelled to protect them. David is reputed to have killed a lion and a bear during his time as a herder. In the Willamette Valley, within five miles of Eugene, a nine foot cougar was killed this year. It had been killing deer and calves. White men have to protect their livestock.

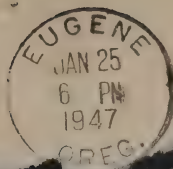
GI's and Reindeer Herds

GI's and reindeer. How many deer would each one get? And how many will want deer and where will the herds be placed? When are those reindeer herds that are in the omelet on the Seward Peninsula going to be separated and so their owners can care for them. No one wants to run after everybody's deer.

After Five Days Return to
C.L. Andrews

1734 Villard St.

EUGENE, OREGON





JAN 29 1947

THE ESKIMO

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
ESKIMOS OF ALASKA

Vol. 14, No. 1

EUGENE, OREGON

JANUARY, 1947

Through the courtesy of Mr. Don C. Foster, General Superintendent Office of Indian Affairs, Field Service, Alaska Native Service, THE ESKIMO is able to publish the following report of the Reindeer Service in Alaska.

REINDEER

Ownership—

Ownership of—are divided into three classifications:

1. Government owned deer.
2. Association-Native Community owned deer.
3. Individual or company owned deer by one or several natives.

At the present there are eight Government, 14 association, and 15 individual herds. There is an estimated total of 61,773 reindeer with this year's fawn crop, broken down in the following classification:

ARCTIC UNIT (Supervised by Unit Manager Herbert McClellan, headquarters, Kotzebue).

NAME	CLASSIFICATION	No. EST.
	REINDEER	4-1-46
1. Hopson & Son* _____	Individual (Barrow) _____	650
2. Tommy Brower* _____	Individual (Barrow) _____	850
3. Stephen Reuben herd* _____	Individual (Barrow) _____	500
4. Buckland Reindeer & Tra. Co. _____	Association (Buckland unattended)	
5. Eschontz Herd _____	Government (Kotzebue) _____	3,000
6. York-Wilson Herd _____	Individual (Kotzebue) _____	850
7. Henry Weber* _____	Individual (Kotzebue) _____	830
8. Lawrence Gray _____	Individual (Shungnak) _____	511
9. Adams and Mitchell Herd* _____	Individual (Kivalina) _____	600
10. Noatak Reindeer Assn.* _____	Association (Noatak) _____	1,000
11. Point Hope Reindeer Assn.* _____	Association (Pt. Hope) _____	600
12. Smith-Knox Herd _____	Individual (Swlawik) _____	1,100
13. Evans-Comak Herd _____	Individual (Shungnak) _____	337
14. Wainwright Reindeer Association* _____	Association (Wainwright) _____	1,100
	9 Individual herds _____	6,228
	4 Association Herds _____	2,700
	1 Government Herd _____	3,000
	TOTAL _____	11,928

ARTIC UNIT HERD

1.* Hopson & Sons took northern Frontier Co. Association Herd, recently in 5 year loan; papers not received in Juneau office as yet.

2.* Cape Hakkett Herd (company) voted to loan herd on 5 year basis to Stephen Rueben who has taken over herd; papers are expected to arrive in Juneau soon.

3.* Kivalina deer loaned to Adams and Mitchell in March, 1946.

4.* Noatak Transfer to individual possible this winter.

5. Point Hope Reindeer Association voted last March to loan deer to individual, however, a good borrower has not been found willing to take the herd.

6.* Wainwright Reindeer Association voted in April, 1946 not to loan their deer for another year, at least till they work off surplus of steers.

BERING UNIT (Supervised by Unit Manager A. D. Johnson headquarters at Nome)

NAME	CLASSIFICATION	No. EST.
	REINDEER	
St. Michael Herd _____	Government Herd _____	250—11-145
St. Michael Herd _____	Individual Herd _____	250—11-145
Egavik Herd _____	Government Herd _____	250—11-146
Sigfried Aukongak Herd _____	Individual Herd _____	500— 9-5-46

Associations of Bering Unit—Herds, group of 8 Associations and 1 individual herd located on Seward Peninsula.

	CLASSIFICATION	No. EST.
	REINDEER	
1. Topkok or Inland Herd	Individual Herd**	1,000—1-1-46
2. Teller Mission Herd	Individual Herd**	1,000—1-1-46
3. Shishmaref Herd	Individual Herd	Untended—1-1-46
4. Allekeok Herd	Individual Herd	Untended—1-1-46
5. Cape Reindeer Company Herd	Individual Herd	500—1-1-46
6. Espenberg Herd	Individual Herd	Untended—1-1-46
7. Deering Herd	Individual Herd	Not Known
8. Mickey Thomas Herd	Individual Herd	500—11-1-46
9. Igloo No. 1 and No. 4 Herd	Association Herd	Untended—1-1-46
10. St. Lawrence Herd	Association Herd	2,500—3-1-46
	TOTAL	6,950
	2 Government Herds	500
	3 Individual Herds	1,250
	10 Association Herds	5,200
	TOTAL	6,950

1.* Golovin Government Herd was loaned to Sigfried Aukongak August 15, 1946. The deer were counted at that time at 426, however, some were missed and it was agreed Sigfried would sign for 500 total.

Note. However the term (untended, not known) appears the herds in his case are out of custody and are not being herded, therefore, we have not entered figures in connection with these associations.

KUSKOKWIM UNIT (Unit Manager—Position vacated April 15, 1946)

	CLASSIFICATION	No. EST.
	REINDEER	
NAME		
Hooper Bay Herd	Government Herd	2,200—1-1-46
Nelson Island Herd*	Individual Herd	1,800—1-4-46
Akiak Herd	Individual Herd	600—10-1-46
Nunivak Herd	Government Herd	22,000—10-1-46
	TOTAL	26,000

HOOPER BAY HERD

This herd is 100% government owned.

Number in herd—2,200 head as of January 1, 1946.

Herders—Four. They receive \$25.00 per month supplies plus a bonus of 10% of the herd over 1,500 head.

Location—Hooper Bay and vicinity.

Amount Marketed for Herder Income—1944-45—89 head, \$1,496.00. 1945-46—100 head (est.) \$1,600.00.

Wolves—8 wolves have been taken by herders this fall.

NELSON ISLAND HERD

Location—On Nelson Island and part of mainland when channels are frozen.

Owner—Bob and Edward Hooper and one brother-in-law.

Number in herd—1,800 head.

Wolves—Seven wolves killed around the herd this fall.

AKIAK HERD

Location—12 miles southeast of Akiak, Alaska (50 miles from Betlel).

Owner—Wasca Rowland. Has 2 brothers and one relative for herders.

Number in herd—600 head.

Wolves—Four wolves were killed this fall.

Income—25 head marketed in 1944-45 at \$675.00. 40 head marketed in 1945-46 at \$700.00.

NUNIVAK ISLAND

Additional Information, Wire, dated November 7, 19

“Just received concerning the Nunivak Island reindeer reduction program: During season fourteen thousand, sixty-eight deer handled, four thousand, nine hundred and thirty-five butchered, 60,000 pounds frozen reindeer on board North Star, 94,000 pounds frozen reindeer in Nunivak cold storage plants.—John E. Paden, Credit Officer.

	CLASSIFICATION	No. EST.
	REINDEER	
NAME		
Akiak Herd	Individual Herd	600—1-4-46
Nunivak Herd	Government Herd	22,000—10-1-46
	TOTAL	26,000

1. Nelson Island Herd signed over to Bob and Edward Hopper in Spring of 1944.

2. Akiak is owned by Wasca Riland.

SOUTHEASTERN UNIT (Unit Manager Position Vacated 1945).

NAME		
Atka Island Herd	Government Herd	1,500-7-1-45
Umnak Island Herd	Government Herd	1,000-7-5-45
Pribilof Island Herd	Government Herd	1,000-7-5-45
Alitak Herd	Individual Herd	2,500-7-5-45
TOTAL		6,000

Summary:		14 Association Herds	7,900 Deer
3 Government Herds	3,500	8 Government Herds	31,200 Deer
1 Individual Herd	2,500	* Increase-20%	10,295 Deer
TOTAL	6,000	TOTAL	51,478 Deer
15 Individual Herds	12,378 Deer	Total Estimated Nov. '46	61,773 Deer

* Note. With seasonal fawn increases and deductions made for butchering the net increase could be conservatively set at 20%.

1.

Our present Reindeer Program:

Our present program is to return reindeer back to individual ownership. We plan to continue the program by inducing native associations to turn over their herds to competent reindeer men on a loan agreement. The Government has maintained herds as breeding stock and will loan its deer in small units to proven native husbandmen on a five year loan agreement. Government herds will also be used to stock new reindeer areas and replenish depleted areas.

There has been four associations and one Government herd returned to individuals on loan agreement to date during 1946. Three more associations voted to loan their deer to individuals, however, the actual transfers have not as yet taken place. They are: Noatak Reindeer Company, Point Hope Reindeer Association, and Wainwright Reindeer Association.

2.

Our plans for developing the Reindeer Industry:

Our plans are, and have been to seek out, from all the Eskimos the small percentages of competent experienced reindeer men who want to raise reindeer as a means of livelihood. After these men have been determined, we aid them to secure a herd on a loan basis in which they agree to return a like number of deer to the Association or Government from which the deer were borrowed.

The individual ownership of deer must be a profitable business or it will fail. It must be more profitable than any other vocation such as hunting, fishing, and laboring that the Eskimo is accustomed to. The reason for this is the Eskimos are not yet habitual herdsman and would rather hunt, fish, and trap fur.

The Eskimo with his family or families must live and move with his herd the year around if he is going to attend the deer properly and gain a livelihood therefrom.

When a herd is transferred to an individual, we bear the above facts in mind and attempt to secure the number of deer initially, so that the borrower can make a living from it after the first year. After the loan has been repaid, it

should then become profitable with good management.

After the individual acquires a herd, the A.N.S. through its reindeer unit managers guide the native owners in better methods of herd management.

Editor's Comment on Above Report

And had it carried out the policy of providing a limited opportunity of handling the products of the herds, as was initiated in a limited manner by the procuring of the "Boxer" and the "NORTH STAR" ships for the purpose of carrying school supplies to the schools and of bringing to the market the reindeer products of the native, and in addition had enlarged on the policy initiated in 1823 by the Chief of the Reindeer Service, W. T. Lopp, a man with 34 years actual service in the industry, of relieving the over stocking of grounds occupied by the native reindeer there would have been no difficulty in maintaining the industry at the height which it had reached at the time it was turned to the hands of the Governor, who had no experience. This was done in 1929. He killed the bureau policy.

Had heed been taken of the condition and management of the reindeer in Europe, in Norway, Sweden, and Finland, the industry would have continued in the prosperous state it occupied at that time. Let a few extracts from the record on the management in those countries be presented and is hoped will be considered.

The Reindeer Industry in Europe

The Lapps have bred deer in Europe as long ago as history records. The wild reindeer is known in America, as the caribou, and both the wild and domesticated reindeer are limited in its range by the existence of the lichen known as reindeer moss, which lies beneath the winter snows and forms its chief food in winter. The reindeer can smell this through deep snows and if this moss is plentiful, it will live through the deepest snow if a crust does not form through which it cannot paw, as a range horse to get grass.

All the Alaskan reindeer were brought from Siberia, the deer brought in 1898 for the drive to relieve the alleged famine at Dawson, were sled deer, and most of them perished for lack

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of feed at Haines. There were 113 men, women and children came with the reindeer. The agent sent to get the deer said he couldn't get Lapps to come with the reindeer unless they were promised to be given a loan of reindeer to start a herd for themselves, and they could not come without their families.

Some think it was a scheme to get an opening by which reindeer could be pried from the hands of the Government, and of the natives for whom the reindeer were brought from Asia.

However that may be, the fact remains that it was pursuant to this letting Lapps have deer for teaching the natives when enough natives had been already made efficient herdsman by the six Lapps who had come in 1894, that there were on more Lapps needed. It has the appearance of a put-up job. They were a curse.

Reindeer Work in Sweden

The late Professor K. B. Wiklund, of Upsala Sweden, was during his life the best informed man in Sweden, on reindeer breeding and care. He was a well known writer on the subject in Sweden. He wrote valuable articles for the American Geographical Society published in the Geographical Review in April, 1923, on the Lapps in Sweden, in April, 1923. He sizes them up pretty well. He classes them as nomadic or Mountain Lapps that live on the treeless mountains of the west. They have reindeer and move down in autumn to the forest district of the east where the reindeer moss grows. He says that in Sweden there were in 1910 only 5,738 Lapps.

He says that the size of herds varies considerably. Herds consisting of more than 1,000 animals are exceptional. The largest number of reindeer that can be managed by a moderate sized family, without the help of strangers, seems to be more 400 to 500 which represents no considerable amount of capital. Several families often combine and manage their herds together.

The milking of the reindeer is a troublesome and time consuming process. He says that it is unfortunately beginning to drop out of use. The reindeer cows produce very little, but extremely rich milk.

It is my experience in seven years of acquaintance with both Lapps and Eskimos, is that the Eskimo is more capable as a mechanic or as a reindeer worker, than the Lapp. He is also more honest unless his contact with the white man has corrupted,--faganized him. Eskimos with W. T. Lopp in 1898, made the fastest drive that has been made with reindeer in Alaska. They made about 13 miles a day, 700 miles between February 3rd and March 30th,

while the herd drive to the Mackenzie, a distance of about 1,200 miles consumed five years and three month, under the Lapp, Ole Bahr. The Lapps, are said by those living along the route, that they would not have got as far as they did had it not been for the Eskimo Woods boys, whom they got to go from Shungnak.

Prof. Wiklund wrote to me personally, July 10, 1932:

"The conditions of the reindeer work are of course very different in different regions, but in my opinion it always and everywhere will be so, that they traffic suits exceedingly well for the small capital who has means of purchasing a few hundred of the animals;— up to about a thousand and can manage them himself and with the aid of his own family (Man and woman) but without hired servants or perhaps with one or two servants on very low wages. For the big capital it, fortunately or unfortunately, is quite impossible. The rougher the country or herding is, the more important it is to control the herd workmen, the often entire herds "Disappear" or are torn by wolves. All experience has shown that it always goes in this way when the owner himself does not follow the herd. Some companies in southern Norway can exist; their mountains are easily accessible and the markets of Oslo and Bergen are near at hand and cannot be overcrowded by reindeer meat.

Wiklund's Letters Published

Professor Wiklund's letters which contain the condensed wisdom of the reindeer work of hundreds of years, as well as his record of a lifetime were published in the ESKIMO in 1940, January Number. Had heed been taken of the contents, it would have saved thousands of head of native-owned, as well as deer owned by the government.

Permits for Ranges to be Occupied

In 1915, Walter Shields, Superintendent of the Northwest District, foreseeing the coming difficulties over the reindeer range, went over the Seward Peninsula, where he expected the main attack on the native industry would be made, consulted the principal owners of each herd concerning the boundaries of their lands and securing agreement, prepared a map showing the boundaries of each range on the peninsula by metes and bounds, on watercourse or divide. He wrote a description of these boundaries and forwarded it to Chief of Alaska Division, W. T. Lopp, at Seattle for transmission to Washington. He also prepared a copy of both for the Seattle Office and for the Nome Office.

He wrote a letter showing the danger of outsiders coming in and placing reindeer on the ranges occupied by original claimants.

(Continued in Next Issue)

This matter will be taken up in the April ESKIMO.

C. L. Andrews
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